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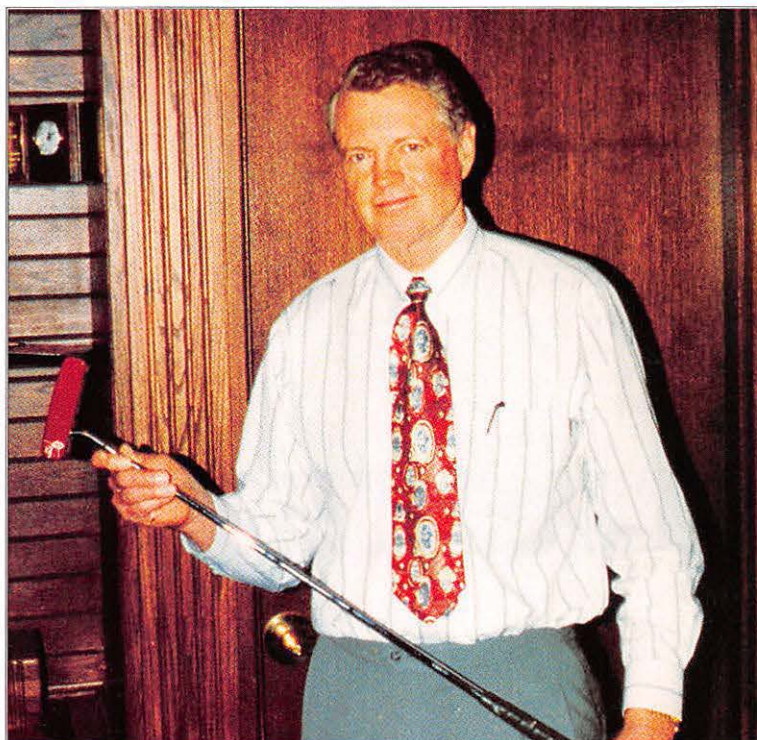
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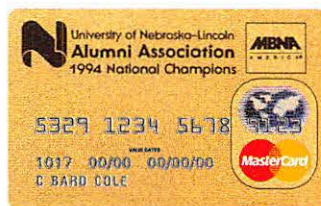
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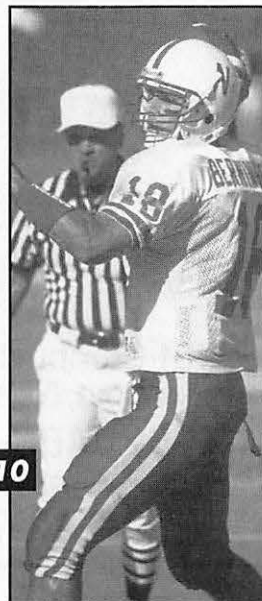
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Who were the best Nebraska running backs? Using the parameter of the modern era, we assembled a Top 10 list loaded with guys who chewed up hunks of yards, and others who simply stole the show when the ball was in their hands.

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With three seniors, including All-American Allison Weston, returning from a potent 1994 team, Terry Pettit could finally win the elusive national title. *By Mark Derowitsch*



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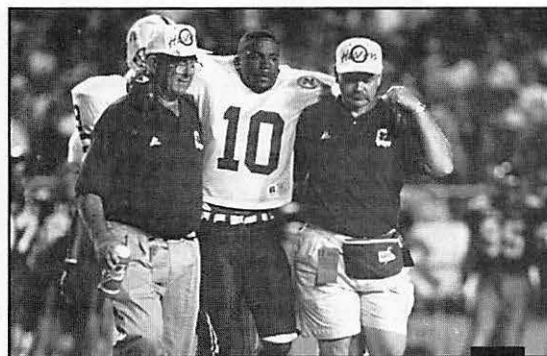
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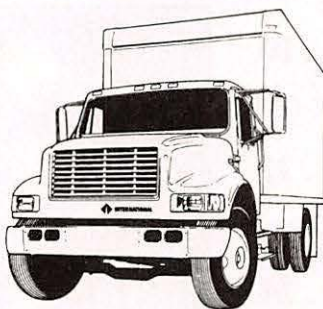
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LETTERS

I'm just a Husker fan who wanted to thank Tom Osborne for taking a minute so I could get a picture with him. I walked up by his office and he asked, "Can we help you?" I said, "Sure, can I get a picture with you?" He did with no hesitation and was real nice to me. It was real special because I'm from Colorado.

Thank you very much Coach Osborne. You're a class act.

John Brodecky
Lamar, Colo.

You guys hit it right on the head with you cover for the football preview edition (June/July 1995). After reading all the articles in the magazine it appears that we have many of the ingredients necessary to make a run at another title. Our schedule should again work to our benefit and even though we may not be as solid at every position, the experience of doing it once will be very beneficial.

I am still worried about the Colorado game on Oct. 28, but the game that should really make start sweating is the Oklahoma game. Not only will this be the last time we will play them every year, with the beginning of the Big 12, but the Sooners will be much better than expected.

Trace Kelly
Lincoln, Neb.

There is no magazine better than *Huskers Illustrated*. Your pre-season issue and recruiting wrap-up edition are the two best of its kind in the world. I used to rely on the newspapers for my information, but a friend introduced me to your publication a couple of years ago. My life hasn't been the same.

I really enjoy reading your player breakdowns. It gets me primed for the season. If you guys ever stopped



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putting out a magazine, I don't know if I could go on.

Sherry Morgan
Omaha, Neb.

Usually every year I look at the Nebraska schedule and sort of laugh when I see that horrible teams we'll face in the preseason. Not this year. After reading the article on the non-conference teams in your preseason guide "Eye of the Storm," I have become somewhat alarmed.

Michigan State may have a new

coach, but there are enough good players back to make that an interesting game. The Spartans are used to playing in one of the best football conferences every year (Big 10) and their down year may still equate to pretty good at other schools.

I don't think Pacific, Arizona State or Washington State are anything to scoff at either.

If Nebraska can beat all four of these teams, then the nation will have to take notice of the 1995 Huskers. People that annually laugh at the Huskers early schedule will have to think twice this year.

Mike Simpson
Boulder, Colo.

Sgt. Richard L. Senkbile shows his allegiance while stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.



I am originally from Central City, Neb., and am now stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., in the 82nd Airborne Division.

I had the great pleasure of seeing in person the Cornhuskers beat up on the 'Canes. To see and be a part of such a class act is alone something to be proud of. The word "class" was evident in every aspect of the 1994 season — from the Orange Bowl loss to Florida State to the way the players and staff handled themselves throughout the season.

I am enclosing a photo that I would like for you to print in the magazine. I would like to end this by saying thanks and congratulations to the 1994 football team and coaching staff.

Sgt. Richard L. Senkbile
Hope Mills, N.C.

Let's have a two-way Heisman Trophy presentation. Both Tommie Frazier and Lawrence Phillips win.

Steve Fowler
Lincoln, Neb.

...

Please send your comments and questions to *Letters*, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb. 68501. ■

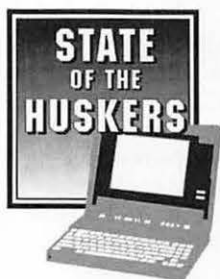
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Better Late Than Never

A dozen years too late for Nebraska, the NCAA has adopted a bowl tie-breaker to begin this season

By MIKE BABCOCK

With 48 seconds remaining and the national championship on the line, Tom Osborne played to win.

Until Nebraska exorcised the national title demons on the night of Jan. 1, 1995, with a convincing 24-17 Orange Bowl victory against Miami, it was a defining moment for Osborne.

Jan. 2, 1984.

Cornhusker fans could recount the events of that night as if they had just occurred.

Nebraska had rallied from a 31-17 deficit to trail by one, following a 24-yard touchdown run by Jeff Smith. Osborne could elect to attempt an extra-point kick that almost certainly would be successful to produce a tie and, many thought, give the Cornhuskers the national championship. Or he could attempt a two-point conversion, which, if successful, would produce a win.

Osborne never hesitated, taking what he considered the honorable course of action, the two-point conversion. Miami strong safety Ken Calhoun deflected a Turner Gill pass intended for Smith in the end zone to preserve the Hurricanes' victory.

The significance of Osborne's decision more than a decade ago has diminished only slightly, despite his having coached a national champion. Ultimately, it was the decision more than the outcome that mattered.

Osborne wouldn't have to make such a decision now, should a similar situation arise at the end of a bowl game. The NCAA special events committee has established a tie-breaker for bowl games beginning this season.

The system works like this. In the event the score is tied at the end of regulation play, each team will be given the ball and four downs from the opponents' 25-yard line. A coin toss will determine which team goes first. The procedure would be repeated until one team outscored

the other.

The NCAA uses such a system to break ties in its non-Division I championship playoffs.

The NCAA football rules committee proposed an optional overtime tie-breaker for bowl games, but the special events committee made the overtime procedure mandatory.

The tie-breaker could further enhance the chances of determining a national champion in a bowl game. Theoretically, anyway.

In fact, what the rule will do is possibly eliminate the temptation to play for a tie. A check of the records shows that the traditional major bowl games have rarely ended in ties.

- The Rose Bowl, which refuses to participate in the Bowl Alliance, hasn't produced a tie game since Jan. 1, 1927, when Alabama and Stanford played to a 7-7 stand-off.

- The Sugar Bowl has had only one tie since it began on Jan. 1, 1935. Auburn and Syracuse tied at 16 in the 1988 Sugar Bowl game.

- The Fiesta Bowl, which will have the first Bowl Alliance national championship matchup on Jan. 2, 1996, has seen only one tie: UCLA 10 and Arkansas 10 on Dec. 25, 1978.

- And the Orange Bowl game has never ended in a tie, although Osborne could have changed that on Jan. 2, 1984.

Nebraska has had only two ties during Osborne's tenure as head coach. Oklahoma State tied his first team, 17-17, at Stillwater in 1973, and the Cornhuskers played Colorado to a 19-19 standoff at Boulder in 1991.

Adding an overtime tie-breaker to bowl games could be a first step in instituting such a system during regular-season games. The fans' obsession with national championships

could eventually force the NCAA rules makers to provide the means for determining a winner in every game, from the beginning of the season to the end.

Nebraska was in a rare situation in the 1984 Orange Bowl game. Few teams are good enough that voters in the major polls would be willing to select them as national champions if they were willing to settle for a tie instead of playing to win.

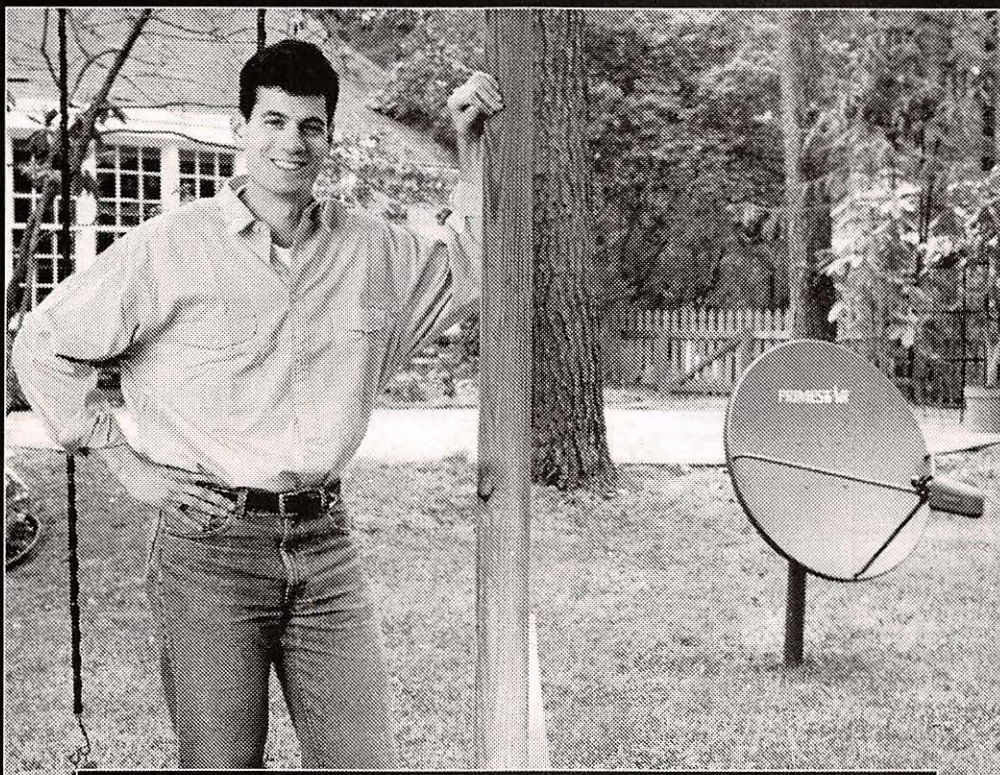
The bowl tie-breaker comes a



Would Tom Osborne have gone for the tie in 1984 if the NCAA's current bowl tie-breaker rule had been in effect?

dozen years too late for Nebraska, however. As the Cornhuskers' 13-point fourth-quarter rally on the night of Jan. 2, 1984, seemed to indicate, had there been an opportunity for Nebraska to tie the game and then try to win in overtime, Osborne might well have two national championships now.

On the other hand, if the Cornhuskers had won the title for 1983, the one for 1994 wouldn't have been quite as sweet. And Osborne wouldn't have been placed in a situation to show his character, to prove with action what Nebraska fans knew to be true. ■



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NO CONTRO

It seems everyone has an opinion.

Tommie or Brook. But despite rumors of ill will, the two continue to battle for the right to start the "Back to Back" campaign

Controversy? What controversy? Nebraska has no quarterback controversy. At least not as far as Tommie Frazier is concerned.

He just sees two quarterbacks competing to be the starter, Frazier told reporters during the Big Eight Football Kickoff at the Hyatt Regency in Kansas City, Mo., in late July. The two-day event replaced the Skywriters Tour, which preceded the conference football season for 32 years.

This controversy business is wearing a little thin. OK. A lot thin.

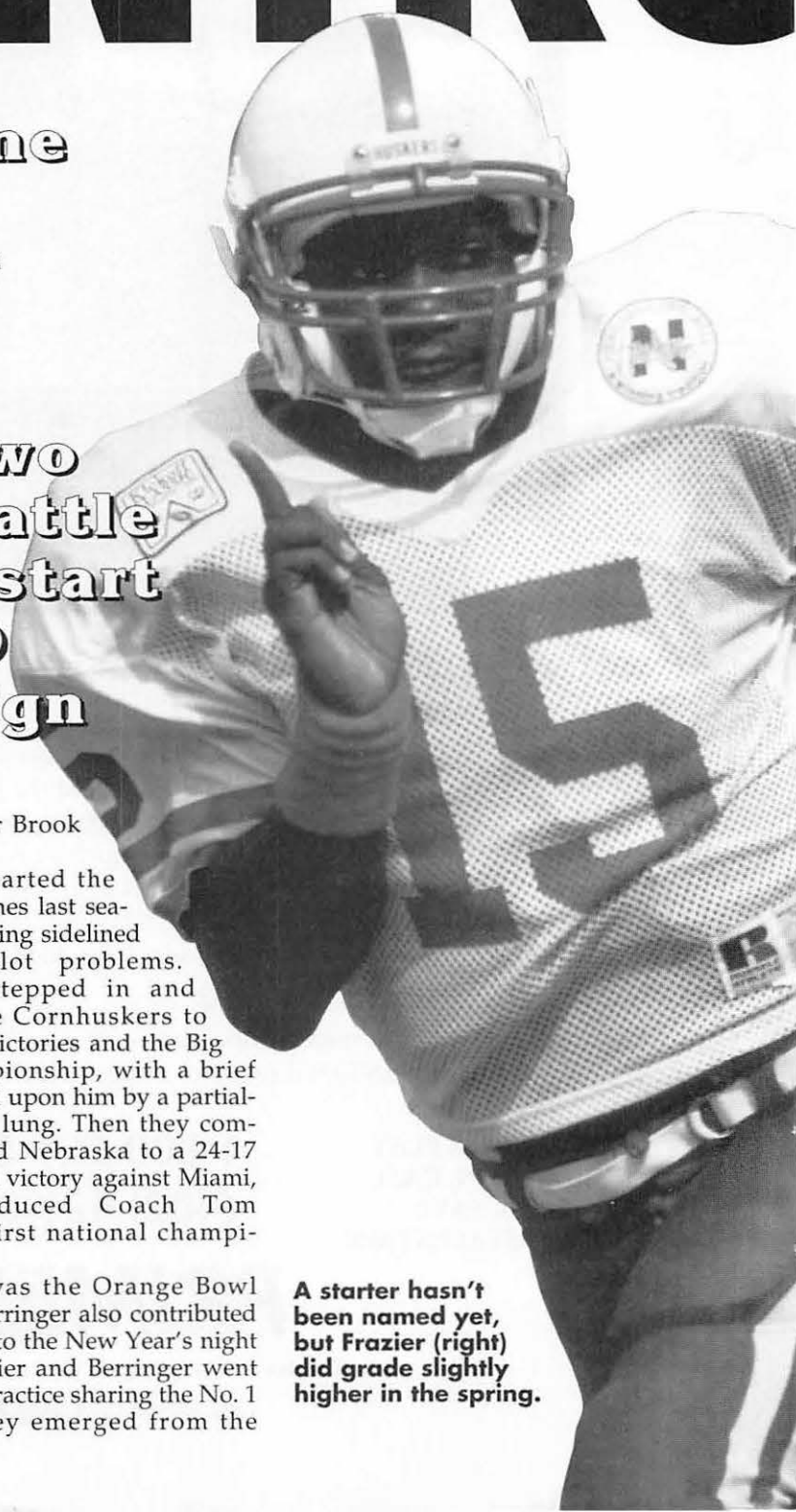
For those uninformed few who have only recently returned after being out of touch with civilization, the quarterback controversy, of others' creation, involves Frazier and

fellow senior Brook Berringer.

Frazier started the first four games last season before being sidelined by blood-clot problems. Berringer stepped in and directed the Cornhuskers to eight more victories and the Big Eight championship, with a brief respite forced upon him by a partially collapsed lung. Then they combined to lead Nebraska to a 24-17 Orange Bowl victory against Miami, which produced Coach Tom Osborne's first national championship.

Frazier was the Orange Bowl MVP, but Berringer also contributed significantly to the New Year's night victory. Frazier and Berringer went into spring practice sharing the No. 1 job, and they emerged from the

A starter hasn't been named yet, but Frazier (right) did grade slightly higher in the spring.



D OVERSY

spring game still sharing the No. 1 job, according to Osborne, who indicated they would begin at the same place in their competition for the starting position in fall camp. They were listed either-or on the post-spring depth chart.

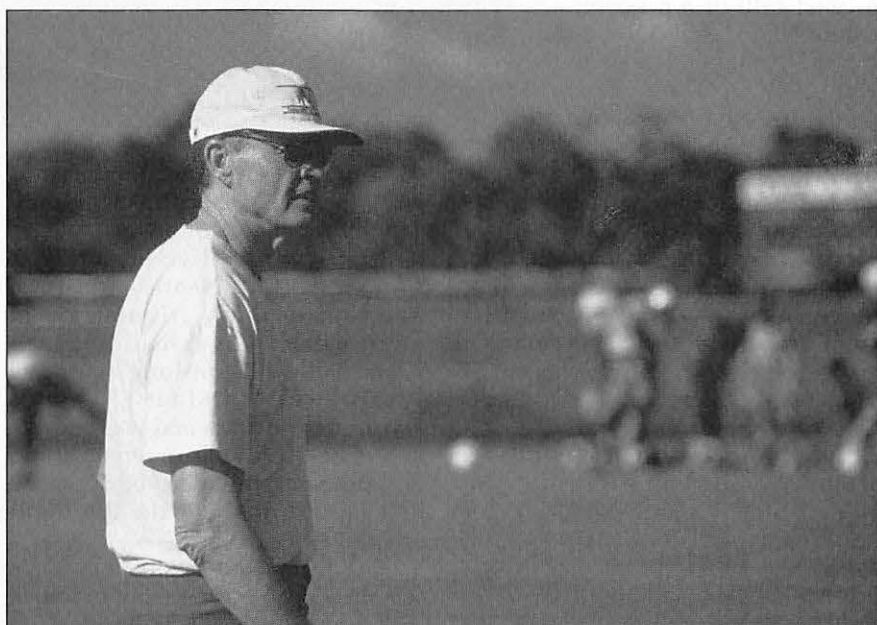
At the Football Kickoff, however, Osborne said Frazier had graded slightly higher than Berringer during the spring, which meant Berringer would have some catching up to do in the fall.

Frazier, whose picture graces the regionalized covers of many college football annuals, said he didn't know

he had finished ahead of Berringer in the spring. And, for what it

might be worth, Frazier said he would just as soon be a little behind in the competition for the No. 1 job. His implication was, it's better to be the hunter than the hunted, a poor but accurate metaphor.

Sports Illustrated contributed to a quarterback controversy in its May 1, 1995, issue by quoting Frazier on his relationship with Berringer: "Everyone on the team knows we don't get along. We might have an altercation every now and then. We might say words to each other, like in the locker room. But



Scott Smith

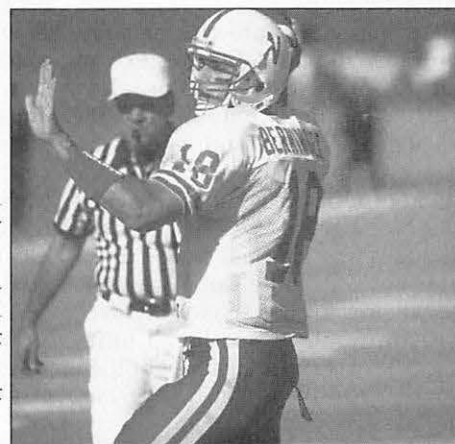
Osborne says he would be comfortable trying to win another national title with either Frazier or Brook Berringer (right) leading the offense.

I've told him just what I've told others: 'It's my job, and the only way you'll take it is if I lose it.' "

The story was accompanied by a two-page photograph of a scowling Frazier. "It didn't come out the way I wanted," Frazier said after the issue hit the newsstands.

He reiterated that point during interviews in Kansas City. "I don't hate anyone," he said.

Such distractions are part of the baggage that goes with winning a national championship. There are good things, and there are not-so-good things. And it's obvious where that fits.



Bob Berry

Among the good things that have followed the national title is dramatically increased revenue from rights fees for officially licensed Nebraska paraphernalia and apparel. The *Lincoln Journal Star* reported that Nebraska has moved up to No. 5 nationally among colleges in licens-

ing profits.

The Cornhuskers are the first college team to be featured on a commemorative Wheaties box. The special boxes, which show Nebraska helmets being raised in victory and stamped "Finished Business," appeared on the shelves of grocery stores in early August. And Burger King planned a Nebraska promotion involving drinking cups. The Huskers have become a hot marketing property.

Osborne, who was a little miffed about having to reduce a fishing vacation by one day in order to meet with reporters at the Football Kickoff, dismissed talk of a quarterback controversy, just as he had during the spring and prior to the Orange Bowl. The starter will be determined in practice, he said. Frazier and Berringer will alternate with the No. 1 unit and whoever grades the highest will start.

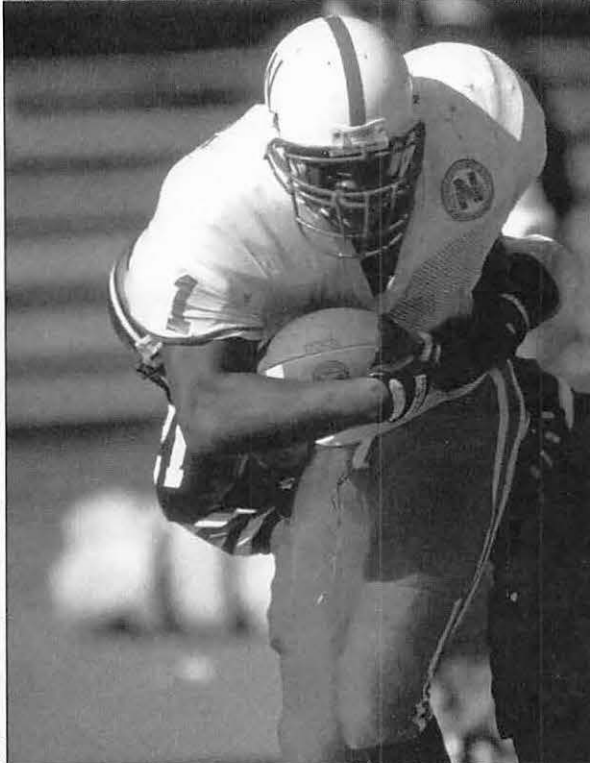
Berringer just has a little bit of ground to make up from the spring. Either is capable of winning, Osborne said. And he would be comfortable with either in a game.

"If you're going to run your quarterback, you'd better have two," said Osborne. Or three, as last season proved. Matt Turman, a walk-on from Wahoo, Neb., started the Kansas State game, after Berringer suffered a partially collapsed lung for a second time the previous week against Oklahoma State. Osborne, no doubt, will have repeated that countless times by now.

The plan going into the season was for Frazier and Berringer to alternate early on as Nebraska attempts to position itself for a run at a fifth Big Eight title and a second national championship.

His competition with Berringer for the No. 1 job notwithstanding, Frazier goes into his final season as a Cornhusker much the same way as he began his junior season. Most pre-season publications listed him among the top candidates to win the Heisman Trophy, a candidacy he downplays.

On the strength of an outstanding performance in the Kickoff Classic against West Virginia, Frazier had rushed for 248 yards and six touchdowns and passed for 273 yards and four touchdowns before being sidelined last season. He had started 23 consecutive games since taking over the job during his freshman year.



Doug Devoe

Teammate Lawrence Phillips also has drawn preseason Heisman Trophy mention, following the second-most productive season by a running back in Nebraska history. The Cornhuskers' tribulations at quarterback overshadowed a remarkable season-long effort by Phillips, who rushed for 1,722 yards and 16 touchdowns and was a unanimous first-team all-conference pick, despite being the focus of opposing defenses throughout the Big Eight schedule.

Phillips is featured on Nebraska's schedule poster, the theme of which is "Staying Focused." Like Frazier, his photograph is included on covers of several preseason publications.

Osborne has described senior Aaron Graham as possibly the second-best center Nebraska has had during his tenure as head coach. The best was Dave Rimington, a two-time Outland Trophy winner. The remaining starters in the offensive line will be new, which is a concern, according to the experts.

The return of rover back Mike Minter from reconstructive knee surgery will bolster a defense built around returning starters Phil Ellis and Doug Colman, who alternated at middle linebacker; tackle Christian Peter; cornerback Tyrone Williams and free safety Tony Veland.

The most reputable national publications have included the Cornhuskers near the top of their preseason rankings, with Texas A&M and Florida State — consensus

Many have mentioned I-back Lawrence Phillips' name within the same breath as Heisman Trophy.

picks for the No. 1 spot. Repeating as national champion will require a certain amount of luck, according to Osborne, who noted in Kansas City that numerous things must fall into place and even then, there is no guarantee. Penn State was a perfect example. The Nittany Lions did everything they could and yet they still finished No. 2 in the polls most people accept as valid in determining the national championship. So this season, as last, Osborne's goal is for his team to play as well as it can play, control the things it can control.

The Cornhuskers will get early national exposure, with the Oklahoma State game televised by the ESPN cable network and the Michigan State game carried by ABC. The downside is, both games are on the road and both teams have new head coaches, creating the sort of uncertainty Osborne could do without.

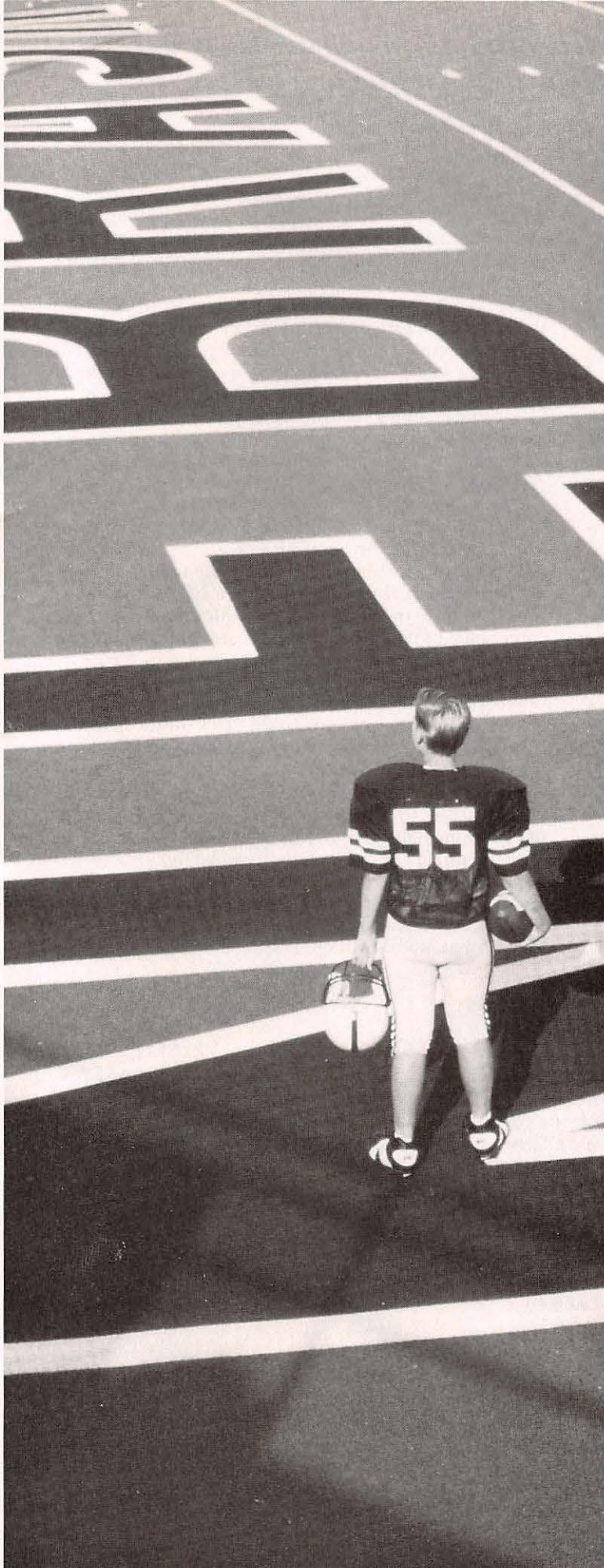
Still, in typically understated fashion, Osborne said he thinks he has a good team. Frazier is healthy, giving him two proven, and winning, quarterbacks.

"I think eventually one of them will emerge as the No. 1 quarterback," said Osborne. That's usually what happens. Alternating starters has rarely, if ever, worked for any team.

Nebraska's quarterback situation in 1970 and 1971 illustrates the point, and provides further reason for optimism among those Cornhusker fans who delight in looking for signs. Jerry Tagge and Van Brownson alternated at quarterback for Coach Bob Devaney in 1969 and 1970. Brownson finished the 1969 season strong and might even have had a slight edge on the No. 1 job going into the 1970 season.

Because of injury problems, however, as well as the fact that Tagge was near-perfect in his execution of the complicated offense by his senior season, Brownson was the backup in 1971. Nebraska won a second consecutive national championship, of course. See the similarities?

Oh yes, Osborne was Bob Devaney's quarterbacks coach. It's too perfect. ■



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With AP rankings as a guide, Nebraska has a one in nine chance of winning the mythical national title again

BACK-TO-BACK?

Based on the history of college football's national championship as determined by the Associated Press rankings, Nebraska has about one chance in nine of repeating this season.

The AP rankings were established in 1936, and since then, seven teams have won back-to-back national championships: Minnesota in 1940-41; Notre Dame in 1946-47; Oklahoma in 1955-56 and 1974-75; Alabama in 1964-65 and 1978-79; and Nebraska in 1970-71.

Bradley Carlin is more mathematical in his approach. That stands to reason. Carlin is a professor in the division of bio-statistics at the University of Minnesota. He also is a distinguished graduate of the University of Nebraska. And he has developed a model to calculate the Cornhuskers' chances of winning two in a row.

According to Carlin's model, when fed into a computer, the likelihood of Nebraska's winning a second consecutive national title is .085, with the probability of an 11-0 regular season .171.

The odds are, the Cornhuskers would have to be undefeated in order to play in the Fiesta Bowl game for the national championship. The Fiesta Bowl will get the two highest-ranked teams in the Bowl Alliance this season, which means it will have the best chance for a national title matchup. Unlike last season, when Nebraska had to win against Miami in the Orange Bowl, "there is no home-field advantage in the Fiesta Bowl," Carlin said during a visit to Lincoln in the spring.

The .085, or about 1 in 12, "assumes teams are the same" as a year ago, he said. "In fact, they aren't. Nebraska is probably better than that. There's a lot of upheaval, new (head) coaches in the Big Eight, except at Nebraska. Tom Osborne is the stone man."

As a result of the stability of Osborne's program, Carlin considers the Cornhuskers' chances of repeating to be better than 1 in 12. "That's not based on math, but I'd go 1 in 10," he said. "That's really good. Only 10 or

12 (major college football) programs are marquee." Among those 10 or 12, "it's pretty much a tossup. Once in a while, a team will break through, like Georgia Tech. But you can pretty much pick your (national championship) favorite from those 10 or 12."

Statistically, if every game were considered a tossup, the odds of Nebraska or any other team winning the national championship would be approximately 1 in 4,096, according to Carlin. Such a calculation doesn't take into account the cumulative effects of the season.

Carlin concludes that the Cornhuskers' most difficult game will be against Colorado on Oct. 28 at Boulder, Colo. Statistically speaking, it would be "a coin toss, .525," he said. Nebraska's most difficult non-conference games would be against Michigan State at East Lansing, Mich., on Sept. 9 and against Washington State at Memorial Stadium on Sept. 30.

According to his model, the defending national champion Cornhuskers are more likely to lose to Michigan State or Washington State than to an emerging conference opponent such as Kansas State, "assuming the games are independent of each other, which isn't the case," Carlin said.

Nebraska fans should know that the computer rankings on which his model is based "lack a little credibility," said Carlin. "The computer is in love with the Big 10 because it's based so much on strength of schedule." According to the computer, Michigan and Illinois finished in the Top 10 last season, even though their records were 8-4 and 7-5, respectively.

Having pointed out that, there probably is no need to mention how the computer ranked Penn State and Nebraska. It doesn't matter, anyway. The Cornhuskers were national champions, according to the AP poll. And they're about to begin a quest to repeat. ■

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

1. **Nebraska**
2. Florida State
3. Texas A&M
4. Florida
5. Auburn
6. Penn State
7. Miami
8. USC
9. Notre Dame
10. Tennessee
11. Alabama
12. Michigan
13. Colorado
14. Ohio State
15. Oklahoma
16. Arizona
17. Washington
18. Syracuse
19. Texas
20. Illinois

ATHLON

1. Florida State
2. Penn State
3. USC
4. Auburn
5. **Nebraska**
6. Texas A&M
7. Notre Dame
8. Florida
9. Tennessee
10. Oklahoma
11. Wisconsin
12. Ohio State
13. UCLA
14. Alabama
15. Virginia Tech
16. West Virginia
17. Texas
18. Virginia
19. Washington
20. Colorado

THE SPORTING NEWS

1. Texas A&M
2. Florida
3. **Nebraska**
4. Florida State
5. Miami
6. USC
7. Penn State
8. Alabama
9. Notre Dame
10. Michigan
11. Tennessee
12. Auburn
13. Ohio State
14. Colorado
15. Arizona
16. North Carolina
17. UCLA
18. Texas
19. Boston College
20. N. Carolina St.

COLLEGE SPORTS

1. Texas A&M
2. Florida State
3. **Nebraska**
4. Auburn
5. Florida
6. Notre Dame
7. Miami
8. Penn State
9. USC
10. Ohio State
11. Tennessee
12. Oklahoma
13. Arizona
14. Alabama
15. Colorado
16. Michigan
17. BYU
18. N. Carolina St.
19. Texas
20. Virginia

FOOTBALL DIGEST

1. Texas A&M
2. Florida State
3. **Nebraska**
4. Penn State
5. Florida
6. USC
7. Auburn
8. Notre Dame
9. Alabama
10. UCLA
11. Ohio State
12. Miami
13. Tennessee
14. Kansas State
15. Texas
16. Oklahoma
17. West Virginia
18. Virginia
19. Wisconsin
20. Oregon

CORNHUSKERS COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

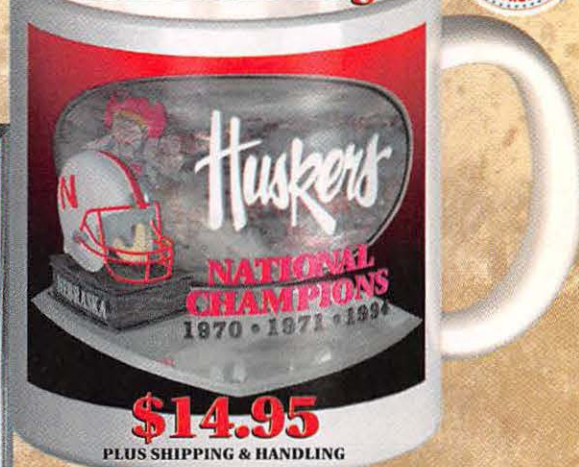
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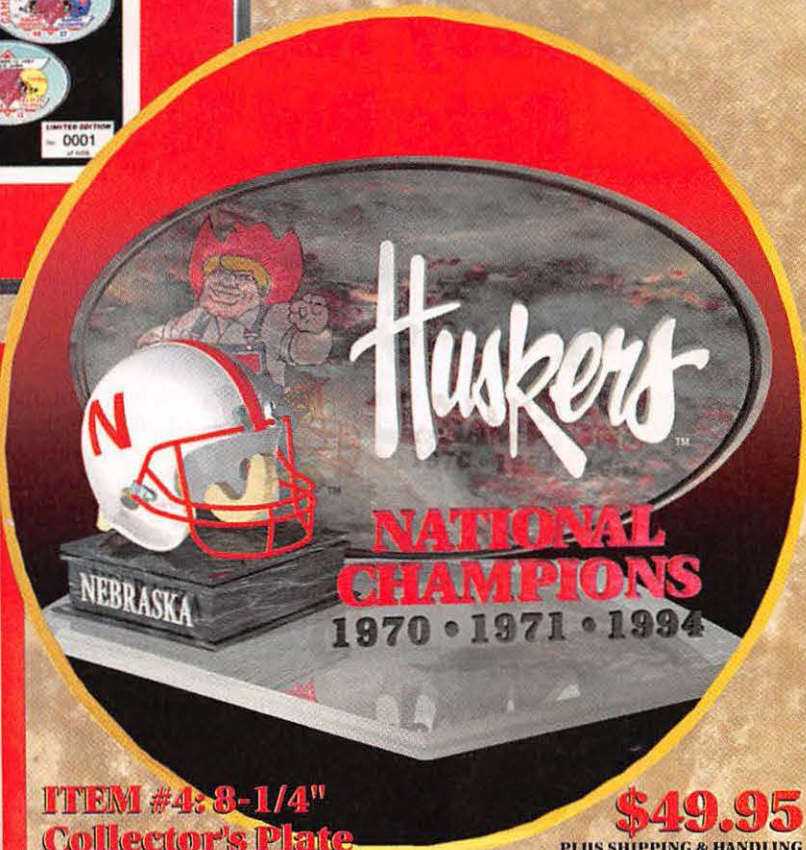
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VS.
NEBRASKA**

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Lewis Field • Stillwater, Okla.

SERIES RECORD: 32-2-1 (Nebraska leads)
LAST MEETING: Only a Lawson Vaughn 27-yard field goal kept the Pokes from getting blanked in a 32-3 Husker rout in Lincoln.

SCOUTING REPORT

Cowboy Turnaround Gets Big Test

By Mark Derowitsch

In the past seven years, Oklahoma State has been to the brink of challenging for Big Eight football championships. More recently, the Cowboys have seen the league's cellar from up close.

The job first-year coach Bob Simmons has to do is start the process of going from the bottom of the Big Eight toward the top. Before Simmons worries about players and formations and offensive and defensive systems to install at Oklahoma State, the first task involves changing the attitude surrounding the program.

That won't be easy at first. The Cowboys are coming off a miserable 1994 season under former coach Pat Jones. Oklahoma State went 3-7-1 overall a year ago, but was 0-6-1 in Big Eight play (tied for last in the league).

"Any time you take over a program that has not won and doesn't have a lot of talent, the biggest thing is getting them to believe they can win," Simmons said. "That is a process."

Simmons started adjusting attitudes in his program the first day he arrived in Stillwater, Okla., after serving as an assistant coach at Colorado the previous seven seasons.

Cowboys quarterback Tone Jones

recalled his first meeting with his new head coach, who helped lead the Buffaloes to the national championship in 1990.

"When we met him, the first thing he showed us was his (national championship) ring," Jones said. "He said 'You guys may get a chance, but it takes a lot of hard work to get it done.'"

Unfortunately for Simmons and the rest of the Cowboys, starting that process on the field comes at the worst possible time. Simmons, the first African-American coach in Big Eight history, opens his career at Oklahoma State on Aug. 31 when the Cowboys play host to defending national champion Nebraska in a game that will be televised by ESPN.

Forging a winning attitude could take a backseat to national exposure for one day at OSU. When first approached about moving the Cowboys' game in Stillwater against Nebraska to the beginning of the season, Simmons jumped at the chance.

"I said, 'Let's play Nebraska,'" he said. "It's a tough way to start your career, but when you look to build your program over the years one of the things you look for is exposure."

When you've been down as long as Oklahoma State has, you take anything you can get. However, one thing the Cowboys have always

PRESS PICKS



• **Mike Babcock, Huskers Illustrated:** Tom Osborne teams have always distinguished themselves by being well pre-

pared in the beginning of the season. Oklahoma State will still be coming accustomed to a new coach and new offensive and defensive schemes and will be ill prepared. The game is likely to get out of hand quickly. Nebraska will have a cake walk early in what will merely amount to warm up for more challenging opponents as the season progresses. **Nebraska 35, Oklahoma State 6.**

• **Jim Rose, SportsDay Mid-America:** How could any mother allow their babies to grow up to be these Cowboys? Then again, this will be a game only a mother could love. **Nebraska 54, Oklahoma State 0.**

• **Craig James, ESPN:** This is a great warmup for Nebraska as it marches toward the Fiesta Bowl. This is just one of many games that Nebraska is going to win. **Nebraska 37, Oklahoma State 10.**

• **Doug Looney, college football freelance writer:** Nebraska just has to be smiling. They open up with the weakest team in the Big Eight. It's never occurred to Oklahoma State that they might beat Nebraska. **Nebraska 50, Oklahoma State 0.**

• **Bill Haisten, Tulsa World:** Nebraska knows what it has with Tommie Frazier, Lawrence Phillips and the rest of its national championship supporting cast, and expect them to use it. Oklahoma State head man Bob Simpson is rebuilding his club from ground zero. The Cowboys are in over their heads early. Nebraska is not a team you would want to face when your players are still learning the offensive and defensive sets. **Nebraska 49, Oklahoma State 10.**

given the Huskers is a hard time.

Last year, Nebraska cruised to a 32-3 victory in Lincoln. But the last time the Huskers played in Stillwater, they trailed 13-6 at half-time before pulling out a 27-13 victory in a Thursday night game also televised on ESPN.

One thing Simmons has in his favor by opening the year against the Huskers is the element of surprise. Simmons will bring a new look to the Cowboys attack, but he'll have mostly the same players who only posted victories against Northern Illinois, Tulsa and North Texas a year ago.

Simmons doesn't buy into the surprise theory, though.

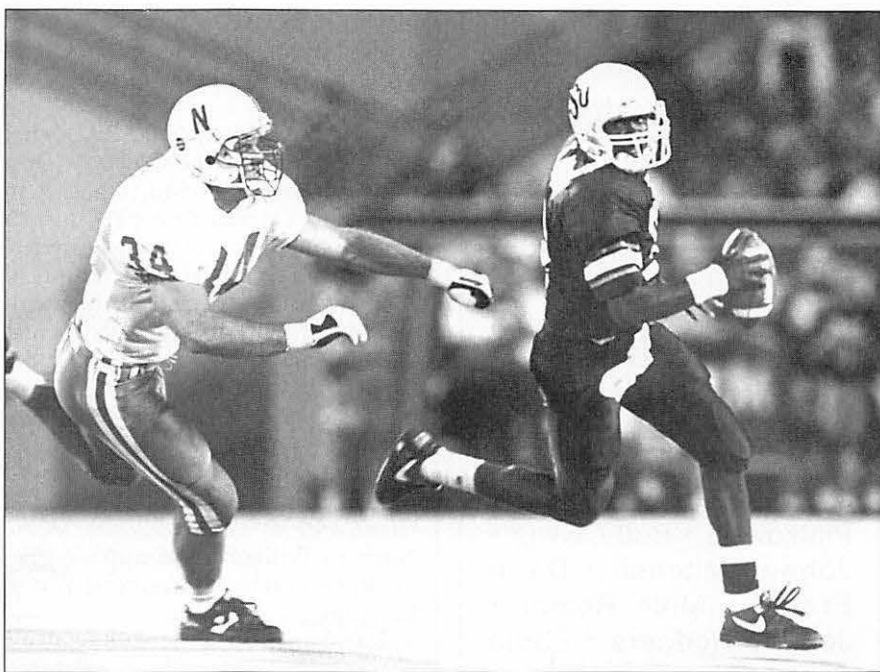
"I don't think it's going to be a surprise against Nebraska," he said. "They're the defending national champion and Tom Osborne is going to have them ready to play."

But the Cowboys would like nothing better than to topple the king of college football to start their new coach's career off on the right foot.

"We want to bring Coach Simmons in on a winning note," Jones said. "Playing the defending national champion is a great opportunity to put our team on the map. If we get them, we are going somewhere."

Offensively, Simmons won't have to do much to improve Oklahoma State's running game. The Cowboys have two tailbacks returning from a year ago when they both placed among the top seven rushers in the Big Eight.

Leading the way is junior David Thompson, who gained a team-high



Oklahoma State University

819 yards on the ground. Sophomore tailback Andre Richardson added 774 yards and Boogie Johnson rushed for 400 yards as a freshman two years ago, giving Oklahoma State three solid tailbacks to build its running game around.

"Right now, we have good competition at tailback, and that's probably the biggest battle on the team," Simmons said. "Those three are really battling to see who will start."

At quarterback, Simmons doesn't have to look very far to find a starter. Jones, who has started on and off for the past two years. Last year, he passed for 1,468 yards, but only completed 44.5 percent of his passes and also threw 14 interceptions.

Up front, Oklahoma State has size

Quarterback Tone Jones showed flashes of brilliance against the Huskers two years ago.

and experience. Three of the five linemen — left tackles Derek Leinen, center Bryan Hope and left guard Scott Waterbury — started every game a year ago. In addition, right guard Josh Henson and right tackle Calvin Menephee started five and six games, respectively.

Henson is the runt of the group at 6-foot-2, 250 pounds. Menephee is the largest member, standing 6-2 and tipping the scales at 320 pounds.

If the Cowboys have a weakness offensively, it's in their receiving corps. Tim McNeal is the leading wide receiver returning. He played in every game last year but caught

NEBRASKA VS. OKLAHOMA STATE TWO-DEEPS

HUSKER OFFENSE

| | | | | | |
|----|----|-------------------|------|-----|----|
| SE | 7 | Reggie Baul | 5-8 | 170 | Sr |
| | 5 | Brendan Holbein | 5-9 | 180 | Jr |
| LT | 75 | Chris Dishman | 6-3 | 305 | Jr |
| | 77 | Adam Treu | 6-6 | 295 | Jr |
| LG | 67 | Aaron Taylor | 6-1 | 295 | So |
| | 62 | Matt Hoskinson | 6-1 | 290 | So |
| C | 54 | Aaron Graham | 6-4 | 285 | Sr |
| | 53 | Matt Vrzal | 6-1 | 290 | Jr |
| RG | 69 | Steve Ott | 6-4 | 275 | Sr |
| | 64 | Jon Zatechka | 6-2 | 280 | So |
| RT | 70 | Eric Anderson | 6-4 | 290 | So |
| | 78 | Kory Mikos | 6-5 | 285 | Jr |
| TE | 87 | Mark Gilman | 6-3 | 240 | Sr |
| | 90 | Tim Carpenter | 6-2 | 230 | So |
| QB | 15 | Tommie Frazier | 6-2 | 2-5 | Sr |
| | 18 | Brook Berringer | 6-4 | 220 | Sr |
| FB | 22 | Jeff Makovicka | 5-10 | 215 | Sr |
| | 28 | Brian Schuster | 5-11 | 220 | Jr |
| IB | 1 | Lawrence Phillips | 6-0 | 200 | Jr |
| | 21 | Damon Benning | 5-11 | 205 | Jr |
| WB | 33 | Clester Johnson | 5-11 | 210 | Sr |
| | 25 | Jon Vedral | 5-11 | 190 | Jr |
| PK | 13 | Ted Retzlaff | 6-0 | 175 | Fr |

COWBOY DEFENSE

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-------------------|------|-----|----|
| LE | 98 | Lorenzo Green | 6-2 | 270 | Sr |
| | 92 | Matt Thompson | 5-8 | 240 | Sr |
| NT | 90 | Norman Williams | 5-10 | 240 | Sr |
| | 50 | Jamal Williams | 6-3 | 255 | Fr |
| RT | 96 | Jay Grosfield | 6-4 | 255 | Fr |
| | 55 | Russell Ensey | 6-3 | 260 | Fr |
| OLB | 2 | Louis Adams | 6-1 | 225 | Jr |
| | 40 | James Elliott | 5-11 | 245 | Sr |
| ILB | 32 | Alamu Bailey | 6-2 | 255 | Sr |
| | 47 | Demetrius Crowder | 6-3 | 255 | Sr |
| OLB | 89 | Jevon Langford | 6-5 | 260 | Jr |
| | 44 | Stephen Cager | 6-1 | 240 | Fr |
| SS | 15 | Trent Fisher | 5-10 | 190 | Jr |
| | 26 | Jitu Criddle | 6-1 | 185 | Jr |
| CB | 19 | Johnny Jones | 5-9 | 170 | Sr |
| | 8 | Paul Brown | 5-9 | 188 | So |
| FS | 30 | Kevin Williams | 6-0 | 186 | Jr |
| | #30 | Trent Alexander | 6-0 | 175 | Fr |
| CB | 81 | Jeroid Johnson | 5-9 | 185 | Sr |
| P | 31 | Greg Ivy | 6-0 | 190 | Sr |

COWBOY OFFENSE

| | | | | | |
|----|-----|------------------|------|-----|----|
| WR | 84 | Kent Luck | 5-8 | 175 | Jr |
| | #84 | Chris Thompson | 6-3 | 195 | Fr |
| LT | 64 | Derek Leinen | 6-4 | 292 | Jr |
| | 73 | Chris Lewis | 6-5 | 260 | Fr |
| LG | 67 | Scott Watterbury | 6-5 | 298 | Sr |
| | 72 | Bryan Guillory | 6-3 | 265 | So |
| C | 56 | Bryan Hope | 6-4 | 270 | Sr |
| | 51 | David Snow | 6-1 | 260 | So |
| RG | | Josh Henson | 6-2 | 250 | Jr |
| | 75 | Jim Villanueva | 6-3 | 272 | So |
| RT | 71 | Calvin Menephee | 6-2 | 320 | So |
| | 70 | Jeremy Offutt | 6-5 | 260 | Fr |
| TE | 85 | Alonzo Mayes | 6-6 | 252 | So |
| | 16 | Roger Pfeiffer | 6-4 | 225 | Jr |
| QB | 9 | Tone Jones | 5-11 | 190 | Jr |
| | 18 | Craig Strickland | 6-2 | 180 | Fr |
| FB | | Jeff Grenier | 6-1 | 240 | Sr |
| TB | 25 | Andre Richardson | 5-9 | 180 | So |
| | 28 | David Thompson | 5-8 | 200 | Jr |
| | 23 | Boogie Johnson | 5-8 | 198 | Jr |
| WR | 83 | Tim McNeal | 6-3 | 190 | So |
| | #86 | Larry Mahsetky | 6-1 | 190 | Sr |
| PK | 13 | Lawson Vaughn | 6-0 | 190 | Sr |

HUSKER DEFENSE

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|--------------------|------|-----|----|
| OLB | 93 | Jared Tomich | 6-2 | 250 | Jr |
| | 58 | Luther Hardin | 6-2 | 235 | Sr |
| DT | 55 | Christian Peter | 6-2 | 290 | Sr |
| | 97 | Jeff Ogard | 6-6 | 295 | Jr |
| DT | 95 | Jason Peter | 6-4 | 275 | So |
| | 74 | Scott Saltsman | 6-2 | 260 | Jr |
| OLB | 98 | Grant Wistrom | 6-5 | 230 | So |
| | 84 | Mike Rucker | 6-5 | 225 | Fr |
| SLB | 56 | Jay Foreman | 6-1 | 200 | Fr |
| | 23 | Larry Arnold | 6-4 | 225 | Jr |
| MLB | 41 | Phil Ellis | 6-2 | 220 | Jr |
| | 46 | Doug Colman | 6-4 | 240 | Sr |
| WLB | 91 | Ryan Terwilliger | 6-5 | 220 | Jr |
| | 52 | Aaron Penland | 6-1 | 220 | Sr |
| LC | 16 | Eric Stokes | 5-11 | 180 | Jr |
| | 2 | Leslie Dennis | 5-8 | 165 | So |
| ROV | 10 | Mike Minter | 5-10 | 175 | Jr |
| | 4 | Octavious McFarlin | 5-11 | 180 | So |
| FS | 9 | Tony Veland | 6-2 | 205 | Sr |
| | 12 | Tray Crayton | 6-1 | 175 | Fr |
| RC | 8 | Tyrone Williams | 6-0 | 185 | Sr |
| | #6 | Eric Walther | 6-0 | 170 | Fr |
| P | 19 | Jesse Kosch | 6-0 | 180 | So |

Depth charts were compiled August 9, 1995 # = duplicate number * = injured, but probable for game

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just four passes. Junior Kent Luck and redshirt freshman Chris Thompson will start at the other receiver spot.

Alonzo Mayes (6-6, 252) will open the year as the Cowboys' top tight end. He played in 10 games in 1994 and caught one pass for 15 yards, but it went for a touchdown.

Defense could be the strength of the Cowboys, especially if they can avoid injuries to their top unit. Oklahoma State will switch to a 5-2 basic formation this year, and will have plenty of experienced players in which to make the transition.

The strength of the defense will be up front, with tackles Lorenzo Green and Jay Grosfield, nose tackle Norman Williams and outside linebackers Louis Adams and Jevon Langford.

Langford, a 6-2, 260 pound junior, led the Cowboys with 8.5 sacks last year, while Green and Grosfield combined for another 8.5.

Seniors James Elliott and Alamu Bailey started occasionally last year, but will be counted upon to anchor that position in 1995.

"I like our two inside linebackers," Simmons said. "They are two physical kids and will be pretty good football players."

Three starters return in the Cowboys' secondary, including senior cornerback Johnny Jones, who broke up five passes and had one interception last year.

In addition, junior Trent Fisher returns to reclaim his starting job at strong safety and Jeroid Johnson started the last seven games at the other cornerback slot. Kevin Williams moves to free safety this year after making 28 tackles in a reserve role a year ago.

Simmons also doesn't have to worry about the Cowboys' kicking game. Punter Greg Ivy was a unani-

1995 OKLAHOMA STATE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record (Overall/Conf.) — 0-0/ 0-0

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Aug. 31 | Nebraska |
| Sept. 9 | @ Tulsa |
| Sept. 16 | SW Missouri State |
| Sept. 23 | @ Wyoming |
| Sept. 30 | @ Tennessee |
| Oct. 14 | Kansas State |
| Oct. 21 | @ Missouri |
| Oct. 28 | @ Iowa State |
| Nov. 4 | Colorado |
| Nov. 11 | @ Oklahoma |
| Nov. 18 | Kansas |
| Dec. 2 | @ Hawaii |

mous All-Big Eight selection a year ago. He kicked 64 times and had a 44.0 yards-per-kick average. Senior Lawson Vaughn is back at place-kicker, after he hit 9-of-14 field-goal attempts and scored 46 points, tops on the team.

Oklahoma State enters the 1995 season with just 71 players on scholarship, 14 less than the NCAA limit, the after affects of probation for major rules violations under former coaches and staffs. That's another obstacle Simmons has to overcome.

After Nebraska, the Cowboys have a slightly easier schedule — at Tulsa, Southwest Missouri State, at Wyoming and at Tennessee — before restarting the Big Eight season at home against Kansas State.

Does everything add up to a good year for Oklahoma State? It really doesn't matter now. Simmons is in it for the long haul. ■

Junior Jevon Langford, an All-American candidate in 1995, led the Cowboys with 8.5 sacks last year.



Oklahoma State University

RETURNING CATEGORICAL LEADERS

OFFENSE

RUSHING

| Player | G | Att. | Yards | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|------------------|----|------|-------|------|----|------|
| David Thompson | 11 | 186 | 819 | 4.4 | 5 | 74.5 |
| Andre Richardson | 11 | 121 | 774 | 6.4 | 2 | 70.4 |
| Tone Jones | 11 | 92 | 215 | 2.3 | 2 | 19.5 |
| Geoff Grenier | 11 | 22 | 137 | 6.2 | 1 | 12.5 |

PASSING

| Player | G | Att.-Cmp.-Int. | Yards | TD | YPG |
|------------|----|----------------|-------|----|-------|
| Tone Jones | 11 | 256-114-14 | 1468 | 8 | 133.5 |

RECEIVING

| Player | G | No. | Yards | Avg. | TD | Long Play |
|------------------|----|-----|-------|------|----|-----------|
| Andre Richardson | 11 | 12 | 97 | 8.1 | 0 | 25 |
| Geoff Grenier | 11 | 5 | 81 | 16.2 | 1 | 24 |
| David Thompson | 11 | 6 | 40 | 6.7 | 0 | 15 |
| Tim McNeal | 11 | 4 | 39 | 9.8 | 0 | 12 |
| Alonzo Mayes | 10 | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 1 | 15 |

DEFENSE

| Player | UT-AT-TT | Sacks | TFL | INT | BLKS |
|----------------|----------|-------|-----|-----|------|
| Louis Adams | 47-22-69 | 0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 |
| Jeroid Johnson | 50-13-63 | 0 | 1-1 | 1 | 1 |
| Jevon Langford | 46-14-60 | 8.5 | 4-9 | 0 | 1 |
| James Elliott | 35-23-58 | 0 | 2-4 | 0 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Green | 38-17-55 | 4.5 | 3-7 | 0 | 1 |
| Johnny Jones | 39-15-54 | 0 | 3-9 | 1 | 0 |
| Trent Fisher | 30-16-46 | 0 | 2-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Alamu Bailey | 27-14-41 | 1 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jay Grosfield | 29-8-37 | 4 | 5-9 | 0 | 0 |

Oklahoma State University



Led by David Thompson, the Cowboys have one of the top rushing attacks in the conference. The junior led OSU with 819 yards last season.

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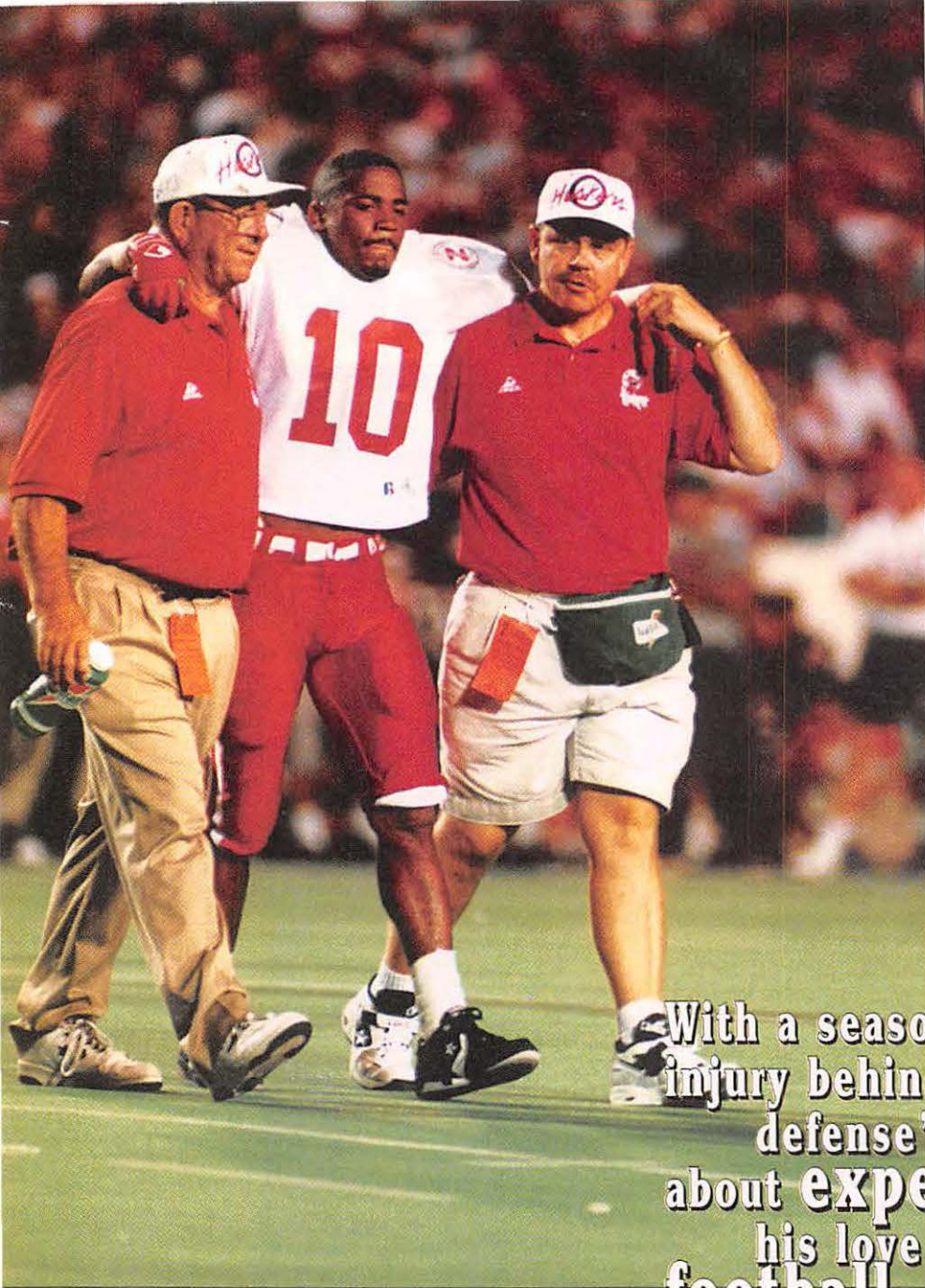
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Jon Halperin

In the third quarter of Nebraska's 42-16 victory against Texas Tech at Lubbock, Texas, on Sept. 8 last season, Cornhusker free safety Mike Minter suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee. Two weeks later, he underwent reconstructive surgery and was sidelined for the remainder of his sophomore season. Since then, he has focused his energy and attention on returning to the starting lineup.

Minter, a high school running back in Lawton, Okla., was the leading rusher in the state's largest class as a senior, gaining 1,589 yards and scoring 21 touchdowns. He averaged 8.5 yards per carry. He redshirted as a freshman in 1992, then played in every game as a backup to Toby Wright in his first season in 1993.

George Darlington, the Cornhuskers' defensive backs coach, has described Minter as the quarterback of the secondary. He is among the best athletes on the team.

Minter talked with *Huskers Illustrated* shortly before the start of fall practice about his determination to return and the upcoming season.

With a season-ending ACL injury behind him, the defense's quarterback talks about expectations and his love of Nebraska football

MIKE

MINTER



He wore a Lawton High School baseball cap, red crown and black bill, and a black, sleeveless sweat-shirt, on the front of which were the words: "Leave No Doubt."

HI: How difficult has your rehabilitation been?

Minter: I had to push myself. You have outsiders tell you it's going to be all right, this and that. But still, you have to push yourself to get back to where you want to be. I never doubted I'd be back. I'd never been hurt in my life, not as far as a major injury. But I didn't doubt I would be back, and at full speed.

HI: Are the circumstances of your injury still vivid?

Minter: It was so weird, like slow motion. As soon as it happened, I knew the season was over. I guess it had to do with the way I planted my feet. When I was reaching around to make the tackle, my feet came down awkward, real awkward, and it just gave out. It snapped. I guess after about five minutes, the pain just kicked in. When it first happened, I

While only a junior, Mike Minter plays with the aggression and smarts of a highly decorated fifth-year senior.

didn't feel anything. Then all of a sudden there was some pain, bad pain. Throughout the night it was that way. The ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) just snapped.

HI: You look like you're in great shape for the start of practice. Is the knee completely healed?

Minter: I was weighing about 198, but that's down a little bit. I probably weigh 194 right now. My body fat is a little over 5 percent. All my clothes, they don't fit me anymore. I had to go buy a new wardrobe. I feel good. When I tested on the Cybex, I believe it was 93 (percent). But that's just compared to my other leg. As far as being on the field and doing all the activities, it feels to me like it's 100 percent. I couldn't do everything I wanted to do in the spring. I had to hold back some. But I can do what I want to do now.

HI: Nebraska hasn't recruited many scholarship football players from Oklahoma: Victor Stachmus, Willis Brown, Ben Rutz, Will Shields and you. How did you become interested in Nebraska?

Minter: Since the third grade, I was always a running back, and that's when I got hooked on Nebraska. I played for the Boys'

Club, and we wore red and white. I wanted to wear No. 30 and be like Mike Rozier. Our jerseys looked just like Nebraska's jerseys back then. My coach, he was an OU fan. He loved the Sooners. Every time OU and Nebraska played, we met up at the Boys' Club. We'd all watch the game on television together. I was the only Cornhusker fan. We beat 'em . . . Nebraska beat 'em, and everybody was mad. That was kind of funny.

HI: Have you ever met Rozier?

Minter: I met him when we were in New Jersey last year. That's the first time I had ever seen him. I got a picture taken with him. He seemed smaller than what I thought.

HI: The Cornhuskers were successful against Oklahoma when Rozier played, but they had some problems after that. Was it difficult being a Nebraska fan in Lawton then?

Minter: There were some hard times after Mike (Rozier) left, some real hard times. I kind of slipped away a little. I didn't really watch 'em too much then. They weren't all that great. When Jamelle Holieway was playing, I couldn't walk down the street without getting talked about for being a Nebraska fan. Then Charles Thompson was from Lawton. Everybody was for Charles because he was from Lawton. I was the only one not for Charles, and people didn't like that too much.

HI: Did you continue to be a Nebraska fan during high school?

Minter: I always loved Nebraska. I don't know when I saw them play, but from that point on, I wanted to go there. My brother and I, he's younger than me, we'd talk and I'd say: 'The Cornhuskers, man, I'm going to play for them.' He'd just say: OK. Nebraska was where I wanted to go, and that's what happened.

HI: Tell us about your recruitment by Nebraska.

Minter: There wasn't a second choice. It was always Nebraska and no second. I never even thought about going somewhere else. My senior year, I believe, (Dave) Gillespie called me up and talked to me a little bit. I couldn't believe it. Nebraska



Bob Berry

See MINTER page 27

1995 CORNHUSKER FALL ROSTER

| NO. | PLAYER | POS. | HT. | WT. | YEAR | HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL) |
|-------|--------------------|-------|------|-----|------|--|
| 47 | Aden, Matt | WLB | 6-2 | 215 | So. | Omaha, NE (Northwest) |
| 48 | Alderman, Dave | FS | 5-10 | 180 | Jr. | Omaha, NE (North) |
| | Allen, Derek | DL | 6-6 | 275 | Fr. | Russellville, ARK |
| 27 | Allen, Jacques | WB | 6-2 | 200 | Sr. | Kansas City, MO (Raytown) |
| 70 * | Anderson, Eric | OT | 6-4 | 290 | So. | Lincoln, NE (Southeast) |
| | Antholz, Travis | OLB | 6-4 | 190 | Fr. | McDonald, KS (Cheylin) |
| | Arens, Erick | RB | 6-1 | 185 | Fr. | Randolph, NE |
| 23 * | Arnold, Larry | SLB | 6-4 | 225 | Jr. | Copley, OH |
| #14 | Bailey, Dennis | FS | 6-2 | 195 | So. | St. Louis, MO (Beaumont) |
| | Baldwin, Matt | OL | 6-3 | 265 | Fr. | Arvada, CO (Bearcreek) |
| 7 ** | Baul, Reggie | SE | 5-8 | 170 | Sr. | Bellevue, NE (Papillion-La Vista) |
| #27 | Benes, Jason | OLB | 5-11 | 180 | So. | Valparaiso, NE (Raymond-Central) |
| 21 ** | Benning, Damon | IB | 5-11 | 205 | Jr. | Omaha, NE (Northwest) |
| 18*** | Berringer, Brook | QB | 6-4 | 220 | Sr. | Goodland, KS |
| | Bilanzich, Andy | P | 6-3 | 215 | Fr. | Salt Lake City, UT (Judge Memorial Catholic) |
| 17 | Blahak, Chad | RC | 5-9 | 180 | Jr. | Lincoln, NE |
| 20 * | Booker, Michael | LC | 6-2 | 190 | Jr. | Oceanside, CA (El Camino) |
| | Brauer, Ryan | LB | 6-1 | 215 | Fr. | Seward, NE |
| | Brown, Kris | K | 6-0 | 190 | Fr. | Southlake, TX (Carroll) |
| 14 | Brown, Lance | WB/PK | 5-11 | 185 | So. | Papillion, NE (Papillion-La Vista) |
| #89 | Brummond, Darren | OLB | 6-2 | 215 | Fr. | Englewood, CO (Cherry Creek) |
| | Buettnerback, Ben | LB | 6-0 | 195 | Fr. | Hastings, NE |
| 74 | Buettner, Jerry | OT | 6-1 | 265 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (Pius X) |
| 90 * | Carpenter, Tim | TE | 6-2 | 230 | So. | Columbus, NE |
| 6 | Cheatham, Kenny | SE | 6-3 | 200 | Fr. | Phoenix, AZ (Stone Mountain) |
| 26 ** | Childs, Clinton | IB/FB | 6-0 | 215 | Sr. | Omaha, NE (North) |
| #9 | Christo, Monte | QB | 6-0 | 190 | So. | Kearney, NE |
| | Clausen, Jeff | OL | 6-8 | 275 | Fr. | Dixon, IL |
| 49 | Cobb, Josh | FB | 5-11 | 235 | Fr. | Wallace, NE |
| 46*** | Colman, Doug | MLB | 6-3 | 240 | Sr. | Ventnor, NJ (Ocean City) |
| 45 | Cook, Steve | MLB | 6-2 | 230 | Fr. | Blair, NE |
| | Cooley, Rance | LB | 6-2 | 220 | Fr. | Hyde Park, MA (Bridgton Academy) |
| 12 | Crayton, Tray | FS | 6-1 | 175 | Fr. | Oceanside, CA (El Camino) |
| | DeBates, T.J. | LB | 6-4 | 240 | Fr. | Stewartville, MN |
| 2 ** | Dennis, Leslie | LC | 5-8 | 165 | So. | Bradenton, FL (Southeast) |
| 75 ** | Dishman, Chris | OT | 6-2 | 300 | Jr. | Cozad, NE |
| | Drum, Brandon | DL | 6-5 | 250 | Fr. | Columbus, NE (Scotus) |
| #37 | Eicher, Chad | IB | 6-3 | 210 | So. | Seward, NE |
| 41*** | Ellis, Phil | MLB | 6-2 | 225 | Sr. | Grand Island, NE |
| | Evans, Korey | OL | 5-10 | 255 | Fr. | Jersey City, NJ (Marist) |
| | Farley, Terrell | LB | 6-1 | 205 | Jr. | Columbus, GA (Independence JC) |
| | Finnister, Demond | WR | 6-0 | 170 | Fr. | Boys Town, NE |
| 56 | Foreman, Jay | SLB | 6-1 | 200 | Fr. | Eden Prairie, MN |
| 15*** | Frazier, Tommie | QB | 6-2 | 205 | Sr. | Bradenton, FL (Manatee) |
| 40 | Froehlich, Russell | SLB | 6-0 | 205 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Bellevue East) |
| | Froeschl, Nate | RB/DB | 5-11 | 190 | Fr. | Falls City, NE (Sacred Heart) |
| #16 | Frost, Scott | QB | 6-3 | 215 | So. | Wood River, NE |
| | Fulton, Lonnie | OL | 6-5 | 250 | Fr. | Grand Island, NE |
| #88 | Gard, Sean | OLB | 5-11 | 205 | So. | Omaha, NE (Central) |
| 72 | Gessford, Ben | OT | 6-2 | 265 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (East) |
| 87*** | Gilman, Mark | TE | 6-3 | 240 | Sr. | Kalispel, MT (Flathead) |
| 54*** | Graham, Aaron | C | 6-4 | 285 | Sr. | Denton, TX |
| | Green, Ahman | RB | 6-1 | 210 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Central) |
| 82 | Gumm, Trent | TE | 6-2 | 220 | Fr. | Columbus, NE |
| 29 | Haafke, Billy | SE | 5-11 | 175 | Fr. | S. Sioux City, NE |
| | Hadenfeldt, Dan | PK/P | 6-0 | 175 | Fr. | Des Moines, IA (Valley) |
| 58*** | Hardin, Luther | OLB | 6-2 | 235 | Sr. | O'Fallon, IL (Altoholf Catholic) |
| | Havlovic, Aaron | C | 6-3 | 200 | Fr. | Osceola, NE (David City) |
| #10 | Held, Ryan | QB | 6-1 | 175 | So. | Overland Park, KS (Blue Valley N.) |
| #19 | Herron, Chris | ROV | 5-10 | 185 | Fr. | Scottsbluff, NE |
| 59 | Heskew, Josh | C | 6-3 | 270 | So. | Yukon, OK (Mustang) |
| 44 * | Hesse, Jon | OLB | 6-4 | 235 | Jr. | Lincoln, NE (Southeast) |
| 57 | Hoffman, Michael | DT | 5-9 | 230 | So. | Spencer, NE (Spencer-Naper) |
| #49 | Hogrefe, Quint | WLB | 5-11 | 200 | Fr. | Auburn, NE |
| 5 ** | Holbein, Brendan | SE | 5-9 | 180 | Jr. | Cozad, NE |
| 85 | Horst, Joe | TE | 6-1 | 255 | So. | Wood River, NE |
| 62 | Hoskinson, Matt | OG | 6-1 | 290 | So. | Battle Creek, NE |
| #38 | Hunting, Matt | WLB | 6-3 | 205 | So. | Cozad, NE |
| #24 | Jackson, Jai | LC | 6-1 | 160 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (Northeast) |
| | Jackson, Julius | LB | 6-2 | 206 | Fr. | Gainesville, TX |
| 88 | Jackson, Sheldon | TE | 6-4 | 220 | Fr. | Diamond Bar, CA (Damien) |
| 34 | Jackson, Vershan | TE | 6-0 | 225 | So. | Omaha, NE (South) |
| | James, Kevin | OT/DT | 6-2 | 290 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Benson) |
| 96 * | Jenkins, Jason | DT | 6-5 | 280 | Sr. | Hammononton, NJ (Dodge City CC) |
| 33 ** | Johnson, Clester | WB | 5-11 | 210 | Sr. | Bellevue, NE (West) |
| | Johnson, Marcus | OL | 6-5 | 265 | Fr. | Oceanside, CA (Vista) |
| | Julch, Adam | OL | 6-6 | 300 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Burke) |
| | Kelsay, Chad | LB | 6-4 | 220 | Fr. | Auburn, NE |
| | Kingston, Ben | FB | 6-1 | 210 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Westside) |
| | Kobus, Chad | DE | 6-2 | 195 | Fr. | Columbus, NE |
| | Kohl, Josh | LB | 6-0 | 195 | Fr. | Hastings, NE |
| 19 | Kosch, Jesse | P | 6-0 | 180 | So. | Columbus, NE (Scotus) |
| #30 | Lafleur, Bill | P/PK | 5-11 | 195 | Fr. | Norfolk, NE (Catholic) |
| 89 | Lake, Jeff | SE | 6-4 | 205 | So. | Columbus, NE (Lakeview) |
| 53 | Langan, Troy | C | 6-1 | 260 | Jr. | Columbus, NE (Scotus) |
| #51 | Leece, Charlie | WLB | 5-9 | 235 | Fr. | Grand Island, NE |
| 36 | Legate, Billy | FB | 5-11 | 215 | Fr. | Elgin, NE (Clearwater) |
| 65 | Lesser, Mike | OG | 6-4 | 265 | So. | Pierce, NE |
| | List, Gregg | QB | 6-0 | 190 | Fr. | Valentine, NE |

NUMERICAL ROSTER

| | |
|-----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Lawrence Phillips.....IB |
| 2 | Leslie Dennis.....LCB |
| 3 | Riley Washington.....SE |
| 4 | Octavious McFarlin.....ROV |
| 5 | Brendan Holbein.....SE |
| #6 | Kenny Cheatham.....SE |
| 6 | Eric Walther.....RC |
| 7 | Reggie Baul.....SE |
| 8 | Tyrone Williams.....RC |
| 9 | Tony Veland.....FS |
| #9 | Monte Christo.....QB |
| #9 | Jeff Nolting.....P |
| 10 | Mike Minter.....ROV |
| #10 | Brian Morro.....P |
| #10 | Ryan Held.....QB |
| 11 | Matt Turman.....QB |
| 12 | Tray Crayton.....FS |
| #12 | Andy Miller.....WB |
| 13 | Ted Retzlaff.....PK |
| 14 | Lance Brown.....WB/PK |
| #14 | Dennis Bailey.....FS |
| 15 | Tommie Frazier.....QB |
| 16 | Eric Stokes.....RC |
| #16 | Scott Frost.....QB |
| 17 | Chad Blahak.....RC |
| #17 | Sean Wieting.....WB |
| 18 | Brook Berringer.....QB |
| 19 | Chris Heron.....ROV |
| #19 | Jesse Kosch.....P |
| 20 | Michael Booker.....LC |
| 21 | Damon Benning.....IB |
| 22 | Jeff Makovicka.....FB |
| 23 | Larry Arnold.....SLB |
| 24 | Todd Uhlir.....FB/IB |
| #24 | Jai Jackson.....LC |
| 25 | Jon Vedral.....WB |
| 26 | Clinton Childs.....IB/FB |
| 27 | Jacques Allen.....WB |
| #27 | Jason Benes.....OLB |
| 28 | Brian Schuster.....FB |
| #28 | Jamel Williams.....WLB |
| 29 | Billy Haafke.....SE |
| #30 | Bill Lafleur.....P/PK |
| 31 | James Sims.....IB |
| 32 | David Reddick.....WB |
| #32 | Joel Makovicka.....FB |
| 33 | Clester Johnson.....WB |
| 34 | Vershan Jackson.....TE |
| #34 | Ramone Worthy.....SLB |
| 35 | Mike Smith.....FB |
| #35 | Adam Skoda.....MLB |
| 36 | Billy Legate.....FB |
| #37 | Chad Eicher.....IB |
| 37 | Darren Schmadeke.....LC |
| 38 | Chris Norris.....FB |
| #38 | Matt Hunting.....WLB |
| 39 | Mike Roberts.....ROV |
| 40 | Russell Froehlich.....SLB |
| 41 | Phil Ellis.....MLB |
| 44 | Jon Hesse.....OLB |

1995 CORNHUSKER FALL ROSTER

NUMERICAL ROSTER

| | NO. | PLAYER | POS. | HT. | WT. | YEAR | HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL) |
|--|-------|---------------------|-------|------|-----|------|---|
| | #59 | Macken, Casey | WLB | 6-0 | 215 | Fr. | Cozad, NE |
| | 22*** | Mackovicka, Jeff | FB | 5-10 | 215 | Sr. | Brainard, NE (East Butler) |
| | #32 | Mackovicka, Joel | FB | 5-11 | 220 | Fr. | Brainard, NE (East Butler) |
| | | Matthews, Karnell | DB | 5-11 | 185 | Fr. | St. Peters, MO (Francis Howell N.) |
| | | McClymont, Alex | RB/DB | 5-9 | 150 | Fr. | Holdrege, NE |
| | | McFarlin, Octavious | ROV | 5-11 | 180 | So. | Bastrop, TX |
| | 4 * | McGraw, Greg | RB/DB | 6-3 | 190 | Fr. | Millville, NJ (Senior) |
| | | McIntyre, Corey | RB/LB | 6-1 | 195 | Fr. | Grand Island, NE (Northwest) |
| | 78 * | Mikos, Kory | OT | 6-5 | 285 | Jr. | Seward, NE |
| | | Milius, Tom | OT/DT | 6-3 | 240 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (Pius X) |
| | #12 | Miller, Andy | WB | 5-10 | 180 | Fr. | Papillion, NE (Papillion-LaVista) |
| | *85 | Miller, Bryce | OLB | 6-5 | 210 | Jr. | Elmwood, NE (Elmwood-Murdock) |
| | 10 ** | Minter, Mike | ROV | 5-10 | 180 | Jr. | Lawton, OK |
| | #10 | Morro, Brian | P | 5-9 | 165 | Fr. | Middletown, NJ (South) |
| | 51 | Nelson, Erik | DT | 6-3 | 275 | Fr. | Iowa City, IA (City) |
| | #9 | Nolting, Jeff | P | 6-1 | 180 | So. | Davenport, IA (Bettendorf) |
| | 38 | Norris, Chirs | FB | 5-10 | 220 | Sr. | Papillion, NE (Papillion-LaVista) |
| | 63 * | Nunns, Brian | OT | 6-2 | 280 | Sr. | Lincoln, NE (Lincoln) |
| | 97 * | Ogard, Jeff | DT | 6-6 | 295 | Jr. | St. Paul, NE |
| | | Olmes, Jason | DB | 5-11 | 181 | Fr. | Albion, NE |
| | 69*** | Ortiz, Tony | LB | 6-2 | 215 | Fr. | Waterbury, CT (Crosby) |
| | 52*** | Ott, Steve | OG | 6-4 | 275 | Sr. | Henderson, NE |
| | | Penland, Aaron | WLB | 6-1 | 220 | Sr. | Jacksonville, FL (University Christian) |
| | | Perino, Jeff | QB | 6-2 | 200 | Fr. | Durango, CO (Durango) |
| | 55 ** | Peter, Christian | DT | 6-2 | 290 | Sr. | Locust, NJ (Middletown South) |
| | 95 * | Peter, Jason | DT | 6-4 | 275 | So. | Locust, NJ (Milford Academy) |
| | 84 | Peterson, Brent | TE | 6-4 | 235 | Fr. | Hillsboro, OR (Glencoe) |
| | | Peterson, Jerome | DB | 5-9 | 180 | Fr. | Port Allen, LA |
| | 1 ** | Phillips, Lawrence | IB | 6-0 | 215 | Jr. | West Covina, CA (Baldwin Park) |
| | 73 * | Pollack, Fred | OT | 6-4 | 295 | So. | Omaha, NE (Creighton) |
| | | Rainey, Chris | DB | 6-0 | 185 | Fr. | Minneapolis, MN (North) |
| | | Raymond, Steve | RB | 6-0 | 185 | Fr. | Gering, NE |
| | 32 | Reddick, David | WB | 5-9 | 185 | Fr. | Camden, NJ (Woodrow Wilson) |
| | 13 | Retzloff, Ted | PK | 6-0 | 175 | So. | Waverly, NE |
| | 39 | Roberts, Mike | ROV | 6-1 | 175 | Jr. | Omaha, NE (Central) |
| | #86 | Roy, Dorrick | TE | 6-3 | 220 | Fr. | Inglewood, CA (Montclair Prep) |
| | | Royce, Tom | PK | 5-9 | 170 | Jr. | Council Bluffs, IA (Abraham Lincoln) |
| | 84 | Rucker, Mike | OLB | 6-5 | 225 | Fr. | St. Joseph, MO (Benton) |
| | 74 * | Saltsman, Scott | DT | 6-2 | 260 | Jr. | Wichita Falls, TX (Rider) |
| | | Sassaman, Nick | ROV | 5-7 | 180 | Jr. | Blair, NE (Logan View) |
| | 37 ** | Schmadeke, Darren | LC | 5-8 | 180 | Sr. | Albion, NE |
| | 66 | Schmode, Anthony | OG | 6-1 | 255 | Fr. | Battle Creek, NE |
| | 28 * | Schuster, Brian | FB | 5-11 | 220 | Jr. | Fullerton, NE |
| | | Schwab, Jason | DT | 6-3 | 270 | Fr. | Eagan, MN (Cretin-Derham Hall) |
| | #57 | Seaman, Doug | C | 6-1 | 265 | Fr. | Bellevue, NE (East) |
| | | Sears, Kareem | LB | 6-3 | 230 | Fr. | Enid, OK |
| | | Shaw, Brian | LB | 6-1 | 185 | Fr. | Dewesse, NE (Sandy Creek) |
| | 31 | Sherman, James | DL/OL | 6-4 | 290 | Fr. | LaVerne, CA (Whiter) |
| | #35 | Sims, James | IB | 6-1 | 200 | So. | Omaha, NE (West Memphis, AR) |
| | | Skoda, Adam | MLB | 6-1 | 215 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (Lincoln) |
| | | Small, Jeff | RB | 5-10 | 155 | Fr. | Fullerton, NE |
| | 35 | Smith, Mike | FB | 6-2 | 230 | Jr. | Dunning, NE (Sandhills) |
| | 16 ** | Stokes, Eric | LC/FS | 5-11 | 180 | Jr. | Lincoln, NE (East) |
| | | Tansey, Jim | OT | 6-5 | 310 | Fr. | Cranford, NJ |
| | 67 * | Taylor, Aaron | OG | 6-1 | 295 | So. | Wichita Falls, TX (Rider) |
| | | Taylor, Chris | DL | 6-2 | 205 | Fr. | Gretna, NE |
| | 91 ** | Terwilliger, Ryan | WLB | 6-5 | 220 | Jr. | Grant, NE |
| | 53 | Tessendorf, Ross | DT | 6-1 | 255 | Fr. | Columbus, NE (Lakeview) |
| | 92 | Toline, Travis | OLB | 6-3 | 225 | Fr. | Wahoo, NE |
| | #82 | Tomich, Jared | OLB | 6-2 | 250 | Jr. | St. John, IN (Lake Central) |
| | 93 * | Tomich, Jared | OLB | 6-2 | 250 | Jr. | St. John, IN (Lake Central) |
| | 84 | Townsend, Larry | DT | 6-4 | 280 | Jr. | San Jose, CA (Yerba Buena) |
| | 77 * | Treu, Adam | OT | 6-6 | 295 | Jr. | Lincoln, NE (Pius X) |
| | | Troxel, Theron | C/DT | 6-4 | 265 | Fr. | Coleridge, NE |
| | #76 | Tully, Kyle | OT | 6-0 | 275 | Fr. | Jefferson, WS |
| | 11 * | Turman, Matt | QB | 5-11 | 175 | Jr. | Wahoo, NE (Neumann) |
| | 24 | Uhlir, Todd | FB/IB | 5-10 | 215 | So. | Battle Creek, NE |
| | 71 | Van Cleave, Mike | OG | 6-2 | 265 | So. | Huffman, TX (Hargrave) |
| | 25 * | Vedral, Jon | WB | 5-11 | 190 | Jr. | Gregory, SD |
| | 9 *** | Veland, Tony | FS | 6-2 | 205 | Sr. | Omaha, NE |
| | 68 * | Volin, Steve | OG | 6-2 | 280 | Sr. | Wahoo, NE |
| | 51 * | Vrzal, Matt | C | 6-1 | 290 | Jr. | Grand Island, NE |
| | 61 | Wade, Brandt | OG | 6-2 | 280 | Fr. | Springfield, NE (Platteview) |
| | #6 | Walther, Eric | RC | 6-0 | 170 | Fr. | Juniata, NE (Hastings Adams Central) |
| | | Warfield, Eric | DB | 6-1 | 175 | So. | Texarkana, AR (Arkansas) |
| | 3 ** | Washington, Riley | WB | 5-9 | 165 | Jr. | Chula Vista, CA (San Diego SW) |
| | | Wells, Jeff | WR | 6-0 | 190 | Fr. | Lincoln, NE (Northeast) |
| | #17 | Wieting, Sean | WB | 5-9 | 180 | So. | Tulatin, OR (Tigard) |
| | | Wiggins, Shevin | REC | 5-11 | 170 | So. | Palmetto, FL (Manatee) |
| | #28 * | Williams, Jamel | WLB | 6-2 | 195 | Jr. | Merrillville, IN |
| | 8 ** | Williams, Tyrone | RC | 6-0 | 185 | Sr. | Palmetto, FL (Manatee) |
| | | Wills, Aaron | OT | 6-2 | 230 | Fr. | Omaha, NE (Burke) |
| | 99 | Wiltz, Jason | DT | 6-3 | 280 | Fr. | New Orleans, LA (St. Augustine) |
| | #82 | Winder, Shalis | OLB | 6-4 | 235 | Jr. | Scottsbluff, NE |
| | 98 * | Wistrom, Grant | OLB | 6-5 | 235 | So. | Webb City, MO |
| | #34 | Worthy, Ramone | SLB | 6-0 | 210 | So. | Camden, NJ (Woodrow Wilson) |
| | 80 | Zahl, Brendan | OLB | 6-3 | 225 | So. | Stratton, NE |
| | 64 * | Zatechka, Jon | OG | 6-2 | 280 | So. | Lincoln, NE (East) |

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* indicates number of letters

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MINTER

From page 23

had written and stuff like that. But you get letters from everybody. That doesn't mean too much.

When Coach Osborne came down, we had a basketball game. He went to the game. On the (television) news afterward, they were supposed to be showing the game, but they showed him sitting in the stands with all the kids surrounding him. He left before the game was over and went to my house. It was three overtimes. He was waiting for me at home. I couldn't believe it was him.

I kind of froze up just looking at him. Dang. He stood up and he was so tall. I was like, He's so big. I couldn't believe Coach Osborne was sitting in my house. He just laid it out, told me it was my choice. He didn't try to jerk or pull me. I can't really remember too much of what he said because I was just staring at him. I couldn't believe he was really there.

When I committed to Nebraska, I got a lot of phone calls. I had old coaches coming up to me, a lot of people trying to change my mind and get me to go to Oklahoma. They wanted me real bad. I just basically blew it all off because I had my mind made up a long time ago.

HI: Your high school coach, was a Nebraska fan too, wasn't he?

Minter: He was Nebraska all the way. My 10th-grade year, I was walking in the hall at school and I guess he overheard me talking to some players. I was like: 'Man, I'm going to Nebraska.' So then he sat me down my junior year and told me he heard me talking about going to Nebraska. He told me how hard I would have to work, and he told me it was going to be a long shot. I took that as a little slam or something. Nobody had ever told me anything like that before. Usually they always just said: 'You can do it.'

It wasn't a big step for me from high school to college as far as being scared. Everything we do here, we did in high school. We had it all. Even the practices were the same. I wore No. 20 in high school. That's when I was Barry Sanders. Oklahoma State was interested in me. They wanted me to be a running back. But I really wasn't interested.

HI: Considering your success in high school as a running back, how did you become a defensive back at Nebraska?

Minter: I had been a running back all my life, and some major schools recruited me as a running back. But like I said, my dream was to come here. They had asked me whether I wanted to be a running back or a defensive back, what I wanted to do. Just looking at the situation here, with Calvin (Jones) and Derek (Brown) as running backs, that would be too much time to wait, you know? Looking at the secondary, they had all seniors: Tyrone Byrd, Steve Carmer. So I just decided to go over to DB.

HI: How difficult was it to have to watch from the sideline last season?

Minter: It was aggravating. But the most aggravating was when I had to listen on the radio. If I was there, I could see what was happening and talk to the guys, help them out. But I listened to the Iowa State game, and I was going crazy. You can't see what's going on. All you hear is this dude talking on the radio, and the game wasn't going too smooth. That was the worst game besides the Orange Bowl.

HI: You didn't have to listen to the Orange Bowl game on the radio.

Minter: But that was a championship game, and I couldn't play in it.

HI: Did you listen to any other games on the radio?

Minter: Me and Tommie (Frazier) traveled down to Kansas State. Tommie suited up for the Oklahoma game, and I went down. You just have to find your own way there. I went to the games, except for Iowa State. Tommie and I drove to Kansas State the day of the game. That was fun. We chatted about our injuries and about the next year. At that point, Tommie didn't know if he was coming back or not. It was a nice time. We talked about the game. He was mostly talking about the offense, and I was mostly talking about the defense. We were like a couple of fans.

HI: Are you anxious for the season to start?

Minter: Sometimes, it's gone fast. Sometimes, it hasn't. School has kept my mind off it some. But mostly what I've thought about is football. I want to skip all the practices and play. I want tomorrow to be the 31st (of August). I get to go home. That's good. I was happy when they announced that Oklahoma State had accepted (changing the schedule). All my family and friends can watch me come back. ■

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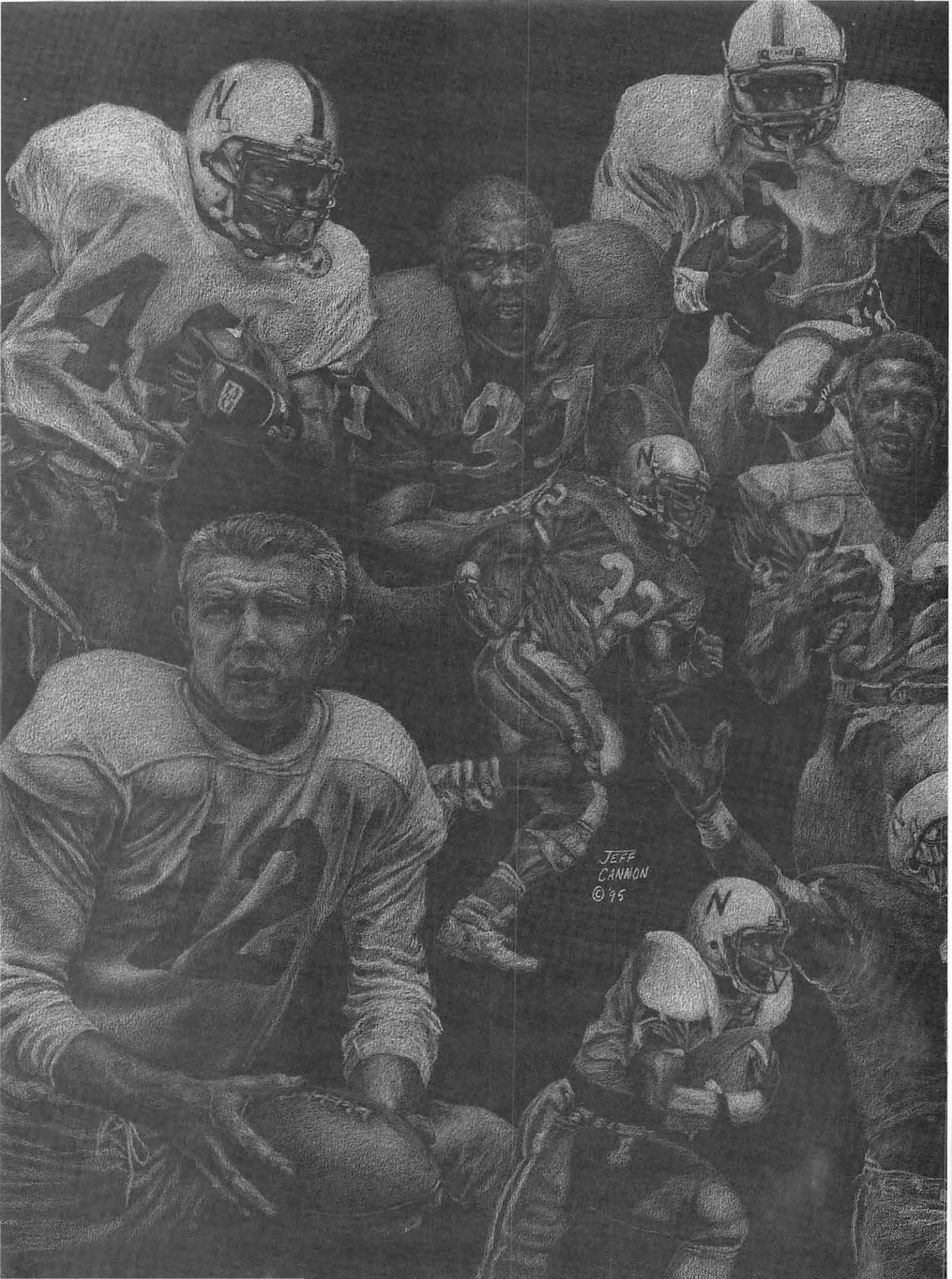
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Ground Breakers

Who were the best Nebraska running backs in history? Rozier. Cardwell. Francis. Craig. Using the parameter of the modern era, we assembled a Top 10 list loaded with guys who chewed up hunks of yards, and others who simply stole the show when the ball was in their hands. One even won college football's highest individual honor — the Heisman Trophy.

Editor's Note — This is the first of an 11-part series featuring the best Nebraska running backs of the modern era. Each week during the upcoming season we will profile one of the players on the Top 10 list.

Who's the best running back in Nebraska football history?

An answer of Mike Rozier wouldn't draw much argument.

By whatever standards are applied, Rozier ranks at the top. He won the Heisman Trophy, one of only two Cornhuskers to do so. He was a three-time all-conference selection. He was a two-time All-American. And he set numerous school rushing records, including yards in a season and in a career.

The teams for which he played had a combined record of 33-5 and won three Big Eight championships. He was as durable as he was spectacular. And he was a first-round NFL draft pick.

Rozier has become the standard by which Nebraska running backs are measured. Even so, he is only one of dozens who have contributed to the Cornhuskers' rich tradition of outstanding running backs, a tradition that can be traced to the earliest years, when players such as George Flippin and Dick Rutherford carried the ball for Nebraska.

top 10 Running Backs In The Modern Era

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Bobby Reynolds | 1950-52 |
| Harry Wilson | 1964-66 |
| Jeff Kinney | 1969-71 |
| I.M. Hipp | 1977-79 |
| Jarvis Redwine | 1979-80 |
| Mike Rozier | 1981-83 |
| Keith Jones | 1984-87 |
| Ken Clark | 1987-89 |
| Derek Brown | 1990-92 |
| Calvin Jones | 1991-93 |

The game has changed significantly, of course, and with it the terminology. But there were outstanding Cornhusker running backs prior to 1950, a rather arbitrary beginning to what is regarded as the "modern era" of Nebraska football.

Lloyd Cardwell was Nebraska's "Wild Hoss" during the mid-1930s. Before Cardwell, during the roaring '20s, there was Glenn Presnell, who was as good of a running back as any who wore the Cornhuskers' scarlet and cream. But, the records from Presnell's time are sketchy and subject to debate.

Presnell earned letters in 1925, 1926 and 1927, playing

for teams coached by Ernie Bearg. In 1927, Presnell was credited for 1,446 yards rushing. If that total is correct and were averaged out over 12 games, the number Rozier played when he rushed for his school-record 2,148 yards, Presnell would have amassed 2,169 yards. Nebraska's schedule was only eight games in 1927.

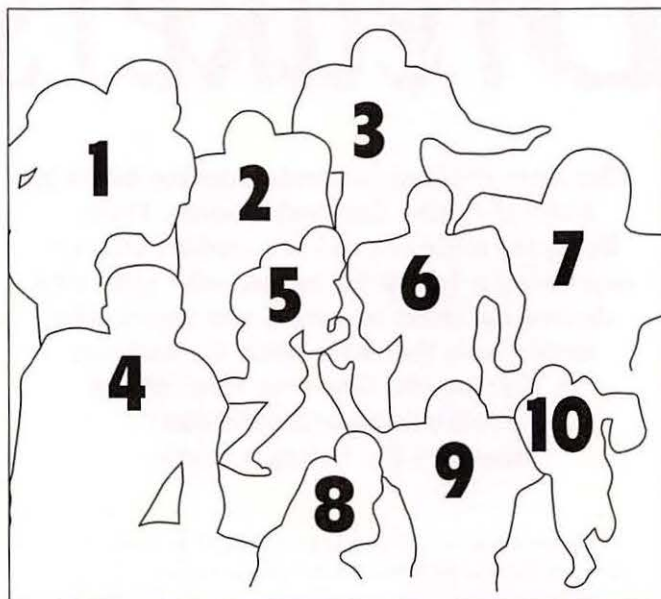
Even without adjustment, however, Presnell's 1927 yardage would rank fourth on Nebraska's list. In one of those eight games, a 7-6 loss at Missouri, Presnell reportedly rushed for 259 yards on 46 carries. Such a total would rank third on the Cornhuskers' all-time list. It would, except that pre-1950 statistics aren't included, which is just as well because Presnell's "rushing" total probably included kick returns as well as runs from scrimmage.

Nevertheless, there can be no denying Presnell's greatness.

Presnell, who was born in tiny Gilead, Neb., and attended high school in DeWitt, Neb., played nine years of pro and semi-pro football before becoming a college coach, including a stint at Nebraska in 1942. He was among the greats.

Huskers Illustrated will feature 10 of the best running backs in Cornhusker history in the next 10 issues, and Presnell won't be among them. Neither will Cardwell, nor many others who fit that description. In order to focus the field, the stipulation "modern era," or post-1950, will be used.

Football is different enough now that such a distinction is reasonable for our purposes. George Sauer and



1: Calvin Jones; 2: Harry Wilson; 3: Keith Jones; 4: Bobby Reynolds; 5: Ken Clark; 6: I.M. Hipp; 7: Mike Rozier; 8: Jarvis Redwine; 9: Derek Brown; 10: Jeff Kinney



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Sam Francis, for example, were outstanding running backs, and consensus All-Americans. But when they played in the 1930s, their position was called "fullback." More recently, players such as Frank Solich, Tony Davis, Andra Franklin and Tom Rathman were fullbacks who regularly ran with the ball.

Some of the 10 players will seem arbitrary to fans of particular players. *Huskers Illustrated* makes no claim that the list is definitive, nor is the order in which the 10 are featured meant to be an absolute ranking. It is simply an attempt to represent a position at which the Cornhuskers have excelled.

The selection process is admittedly subjective, with only a few general criteria. The players featured were primarily running backs and must have completed their eligibility. Lawrence Phillips isn't among the 10, even though through two seasons he has performed about as well as any I-back, including Rozier. Phillips produced the second-best single-season total in Nebraska history as a sophomore, rushing for 1,722 yards, and he should be in the running for the Heisman Trophy this fall.

Roger Craig, Rick Berns and Monte Anthony are not on the list, though they certainly could be, without diminishing its quality. Neither is Doug DuBose nor is Willie Ross, who earned the nickname "Twister" for his spectacular runs in the early 1960s. Ross was recruited by Bill Jennings, but he came into prominence under Bob Devaney. He scored the final touchdown in Nebraska's 36-34 Gotham Bowl victory against Miami in December of 1962.

Ross is well down the line on the Cornhuskers' career-rushing list, with 1,125 yards and eight rushing touchdowns in three seasons. But a running back's responsibility was different then than it is now. Ross, who was from

Helena, Ark., and Rudy Johnson, another Jennings' recruit from Aransas Pass, Texas, were a tandem. Ross was the left halfback. Johnson was the right halfback.

Johnny Rodgers won't be featured in the next 10 weeks, either, mainly because Rodgers was a wingback rather than a running back — except in the final game of his collegiate career.

In the 1973 Orange Bowl game, Rodgers moved to I-back, a move apparently so disconcerting to Nebraska's opponent, Notre Dame, that Rodgers scored three rushing touchdowns. He also caught a touchdown pass thrown by quarterback David Humm, and he threw a touchdown pass to split end Frosty Anderson in the 40-6 Nebraska victory.

Rodgers' performance was memorable and capped a Heisman Trophy season. But it doesn't qualify him as a running back for the purposes here. The list, in the order they played, includes: Bobby Reynolds (1950-52), Harry Wilson (1964-66), Jeff Kinney (1969-71), I.M. Hipp (1977-79), Jarvis Redwine (1979-80), Rozier (1981-83), Keith Jones (1984-87), Ken Clark (1987-89), Derek Brown (1990-92) and Calvin Jones (1991-93).

The qualifications of each player will be duly noted, with the previously mentioned stipulation that any of a number of other players might have been included. No slight is intended. Reynolds was the first Cornhusker halfback to earn All-America recognition. He did so as a sophomore in 1950, when he established a school single-season rushing record of 1,342 yards. Reynolds' record held for more than 30 years, until Rozier shattered it. Unless, of course, Presnell's 1,446 yard performance in 1927 is accepted.

It all depends on your frame of reference. Consider these 10 of the best, not the 10 best. ■

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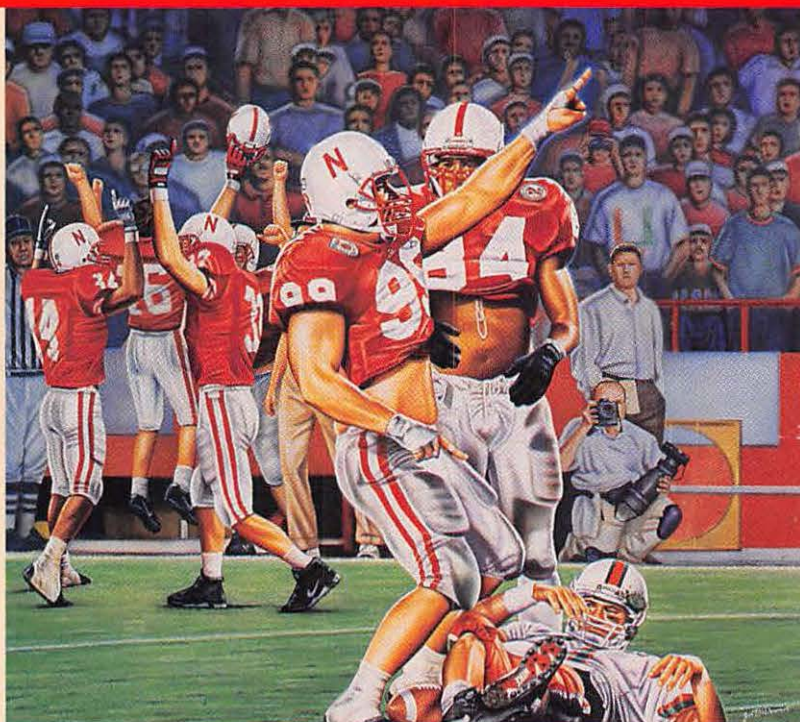
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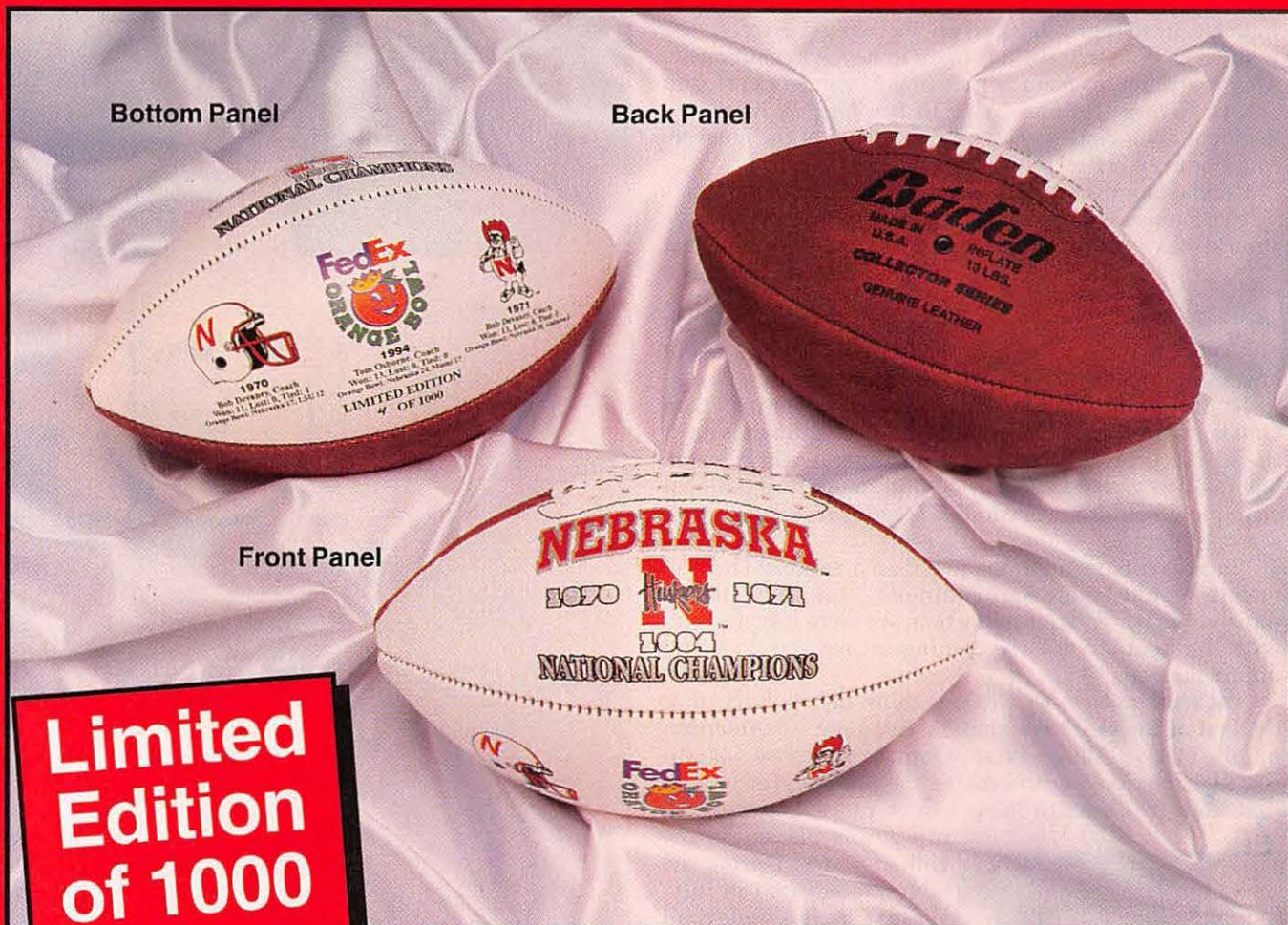
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The calendar says it's August, and national championship talk is already being heard on the University of Nebraska campus.

But the talk of finishing as the nation's No. 1 team this fall isn't just being heard at Memorial Stadium. About a block down Vine Street, at the Nebraska Coliseum, the Cornhusker volleyball team has its thoughts focused on the coveted prize.

Even coach Terry Pettit is in on it, however cautiously. After watching his team win its first 31 games last season before losing to Penn State in the NCAA Midwest Regional final, Pettit says the 1995 version of the Huskers could be even better.

Good enough, in fact, to make a run at a national title.

"On paper, we should be more experienced and we should have more improved depth than we had last year," he said. "This is a team I think certainly should be better, but I'll have more of a feel about

how far this team will go as the season progresses."

Nebraska setter Christy Johnson, a senior from Omaha, figures the Huskers will make a legitimate run at the national title. Preseason polls agree with Johnson. Nebraska is ranked second, behind defending national champion Stanford, in *Volleyball Monthly* magazine's preseason ranking.

"In my opinion, anything less than a national championship would be a disappointment," Johnson said. "I think we're better defensively than we were last year and with the people we have coming in, we should be an improved team."

Just what makes the Huskers think they'll contend at the end of the year? For starters, two-time All-American middle blocker Allison Weston returns for her senior season. Weston, looking to become the first Husker to earn first-team All-America honors three times, is one of the

Bob Berry



Allison Weston has a good chance to become the first Husker to earn All-America honors three years in a row.

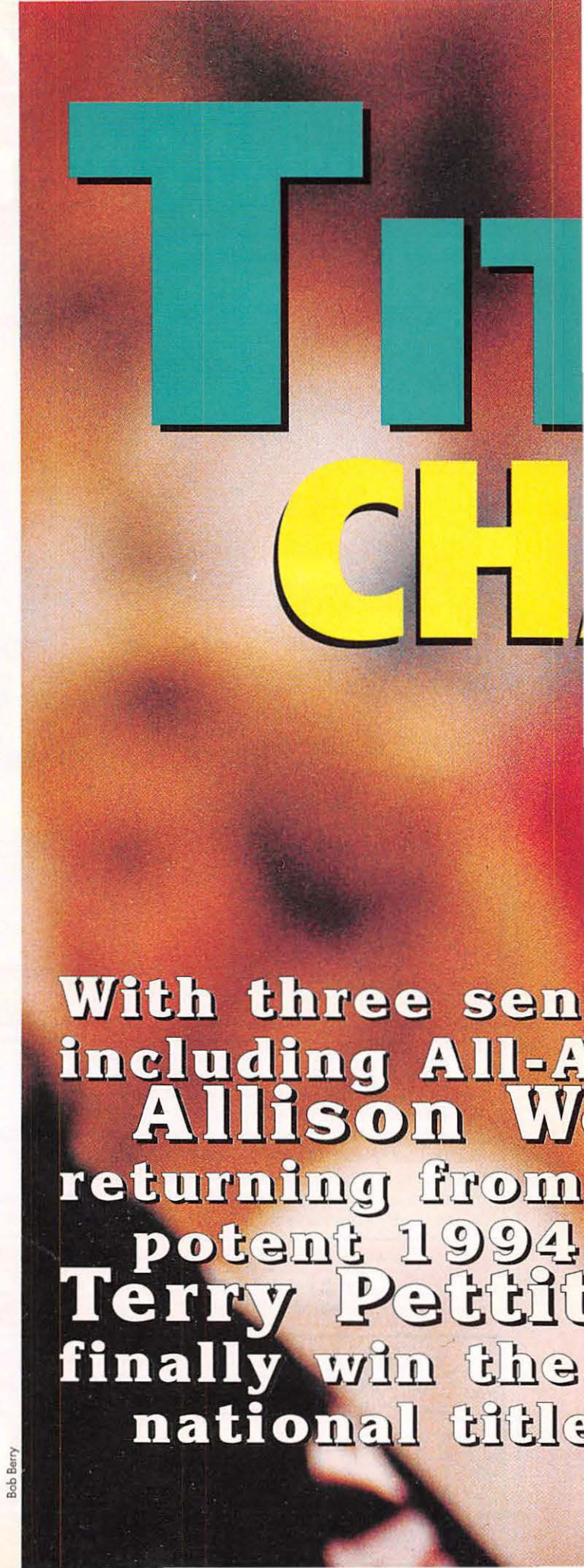
top young players in the United States. During the Olympic Festival in July, Weston led all volleyball players in kills.

Last fall, she led the Huskers in kills, averaging a Big Eight-record 4.99 per game. She finished the year with 514 kills, the fourth-best single-season total in Big Eight history.

"If there were a discussion about who were the top volleyball players this year, Allison would definitely be talked about," Pettit said. "She led the Festival in kills, she's a two-time All-American. I'm not sure who else has those credentials."

In order to take better advantage of Weston's talents, Pettit is considering moving her to the outside hitter slot at times throughout the year.

"We had hoped to do that, but some injuries may have

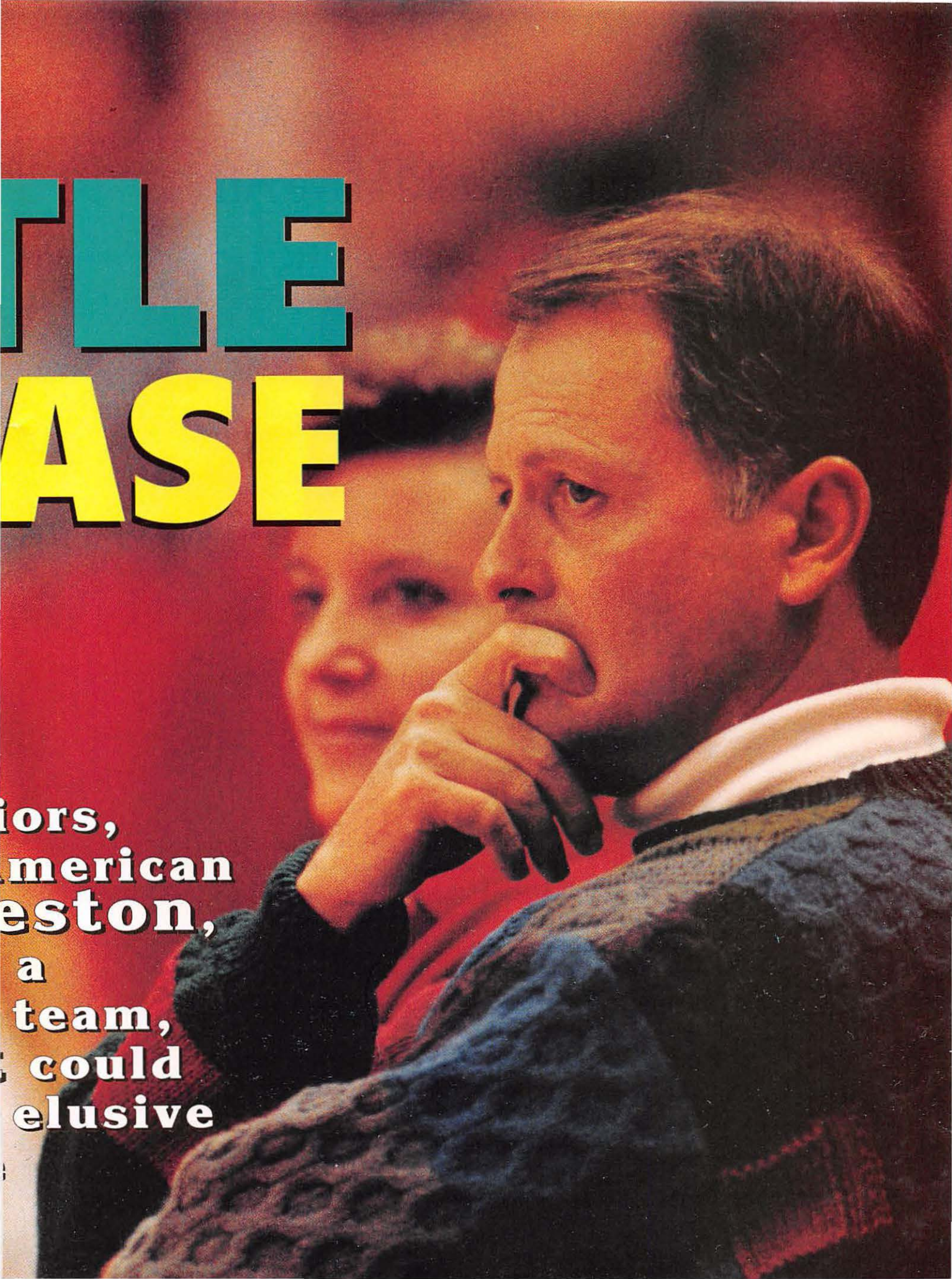


With three seniors including All-American Allison Weston returning from a potent 1994 season, Terry Pettit finally win the national title

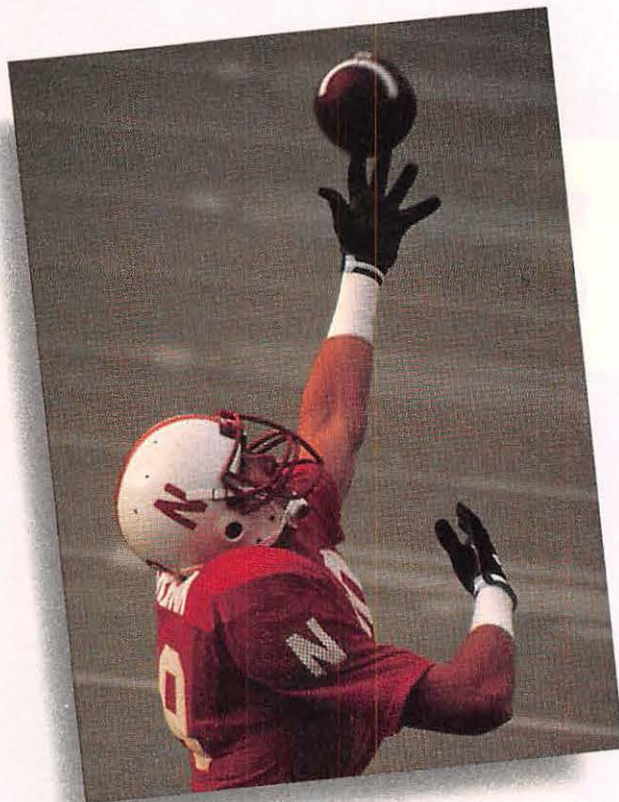
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put a damper on that," Pettit said. "There still may be a possibility that will allow her to do that, but I don't know for sure."

Weston may be the Huskers' top gun, but she'll be surrounded by a solid supporting cast this fall, led by outside hitter Billie Winsett and Johnson.

Winsett is coming off a solid junior season in which she recorded 314 kills and had a .270 hitting percentage. Pettit will rely on Winsett to handle the left-side hitting attack for the third straight season.

After redshirting in 1993, Johnson returned for her junior season to start every match for the Huskers and earn All-American honors in the process. She set a Big Eight record for assists-per-game, averaging 14.18.

"Our team will be built around the experience of our three seniors, Weston, Winsett and Johnson," Pettit said. "That's a very good group to start with."

The Huskers' lone question mark heading into the season may be at middle blocker opposite of Weston, but it's not because Pettit lacks talent at that position. Jen McFadden redshirted last year after undergoing knee and back surgery. Stacie Maser also redshirted after tearing her anterior cruciate ligament before the season started.

Heading into fall camp, Pettit doesn't know what he can expect from those two players. In addition, freshman middle blocker Lisa Avery tore an ACL during a summer match and will sit out this season as a redshirt.

"With Jen, it may be some time down the road before I'll know what level she's going to compete at this year," Pettit

"On paper, we should be more experienced and we should have more improved depth than we had last year."

**— Gary Pettit
Nebraska volleyball coach**

as an outside hitter.

Sophomore Lisa Reitsma, who played just 18 matches last year, will likely move into the starting lineup at outside hitter.

In addition, Pettit said junior Kate Crnich will battle three incoming freshmen — Jamie Krondak, Renee Saunders and Fiona Nepo — for another starting spot.

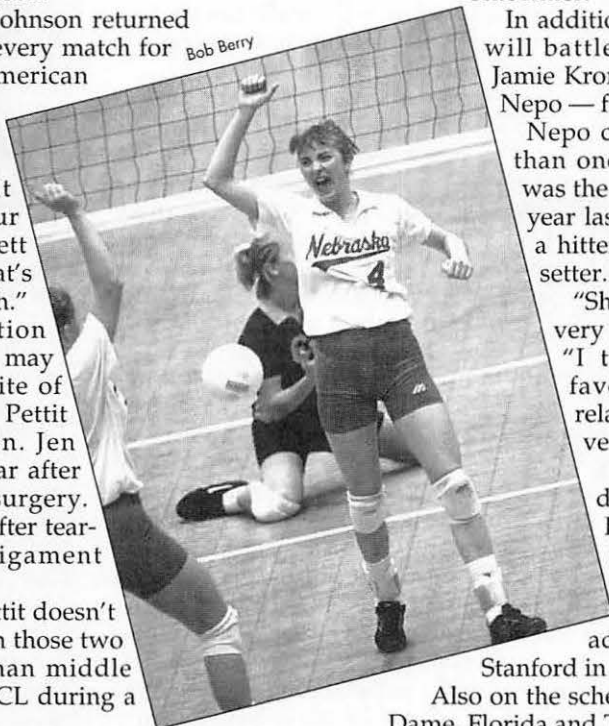
Nepo could help the Huskers in more than one area. The native of Honolulu was the Hawaii high school player of the year last season and could see action as a hitter and as a backup to Johnson at setter.

"She has a very strong attack and is very consistent," Pettit said of Nepo. "I think she'll be a real crowd favorite just because she plays so relaxed yet she plays the game at a very high level."

The Huskers will be tested often during the 1995 season. The Huskers open the season by playing host to the NACWAA Volleyball Classic, and will meet Penn State in the first round. In addition, the Huskers could play Stanford in the tournament.

Also on the schedule is Pacific, Wisconsin, Notre Dame, Florida and Texas.

"I think we're eager to find out what we have," Pettit said. "We certainly have more depth than we've had the last two years, but we still have a couple of question marks as far as injuries are concerned. We have a good chance to finish better than we did last year." ■



Outside hitter Billie Winsett is coming off a solid junior year in which she recorded 314 kills.

1995 VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

| NO. | PLAYER | CL. | POS. | HT. | HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL) |
|-----|-----------------|------|-------|------|-------------------------------------|
| 12 | Lisa Avery | Fr | MB | 6-1 | Shawnee Mission, Kan. (South) |
| 7 | Kate Crnich | Jr | OH | 5-11 | River Forest, Ill. (Trinity) |
| 8 | Maria Hedbeck | Jr | OH | 5-10 | Sollentuna, Sweden |
| 5 | Christy Johnson | Sr | S | 5-8 | Omaha, Neb. (Millard North) |
| 9 | Denise Koziol | Fr | OH | 5-11 | Norfolk, Neb. |
| 14 | Jaime Krondak | Fr | OH | 6-0 | Lincoln, Neb. (East) |
| 6 | Kim Legg | So | OH | 5-11 | Ft. Collins, Colo. (Rocky Mountain) |
| 10 | Stacie Maser | R-Fr | MB | 6-0 | Lincoln, Neb. (Northeast) |
| 25 | Jen McFadden | Jr | MB | 6-2 | Dubuque, Iowa (Wahlert) |
| 16 | Fiona Nepo | Fr | S/OH | 5-9 | Honolulu, Hawaii (University) |
| 15 | Lisa Reitsma | So | OH | 6-4 | Sanborn, Iowa (W. Christian) |
| 3 | Renee Saunders | Fr | OH | 5-11 | Omaha, Neb. (Marian) |
| 18 | Allison Weston | Sr | MB/OH | 6-0 | Papillion, Neb. (Papillion-LaVista) |
| 4 | Billie Winsett | Sr | OH | 5-11 | Boonville, Ind. |

BY POSITION

OUTSIDE HITTER

Kate Crnich
Maria Hedbeck
Billie Winsett
Kim Legg
Lisa Reitsma
Allison Weston
Denise Koziol
Jaime Krondak
Fiona Nepo
Renee Saunders

MIDDLE BLOCKER

Stacie Maser
Jen McFadden
Allison Weston
Lisa Avery

SETTER

Christy Johnson
Fiona Nepo

TRUE LUE

Despite temptation to decommit, point guard Tyronn Lue didn't waiver from Nebraska signing

Tyronn Lue is a man of his word. If he weren't, he might be going to Memphis in the fall. Instead, Lue is coming to Nebraska to play basketball, just as he promised he would.

Lue, a point guard from Raytown High School in Kansas City, Mo., made an oral commitment to the Cornhuskers in March. But he wavered a little when Memphis came to Kansas City's Kemper Arena for the NCAA Midwest Regional, according to *The Kansas City Star*.

The *Star* reported that Lue was close to changing his mind about where he would play collegiately. He became interested in Memphis, before accepting Nebraska's scholarship offer, the newspaper said. He signed a Nebraska letter of intent in mid-April.

Lue said he settled on the Cornhuskers for at least two reasons. Nebraska offered him an opportunity to play immediately, and it provides better academic support. He was quoted: "They said I could come in and start four years."

Lue, a 6-1 point guard, scored 23 points per game for a team that finished with a 27-1 record.

Lue is one of two true freshmen who will be playing for the Cornhuskers this season. Venson Hamilton, a 6-9 power forward from Oak Hill, Va., Academy, is the other. Hamilton earned a high enough standardized test score to be eligible his first year.

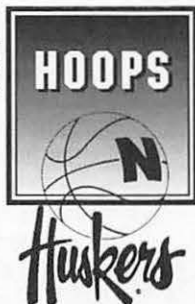
Hamilton averaged 12 points and 10 rebounds per game for a 33-3 team. He is from Forest City, N.C.

Lue and Hamilton will join 6-7 Bernard Garner, a transfer from Western Nebraska Community College as newcomers this season. Garner was the national junior college player of the year.

Three other Cornhusker recruits

will sit out this season. Guard Alvin Mitchell from Omaha and forward Larry Florence from Phenix City, Ala., have not meet NCAA freshman eligibility requirements. Troy Piatkowski will walk on and be given a scholarship next season. He is expected to redshirt.

Troy Piatkowski is the brother of former Cornhusker Eric Piatkowski, who was a rookie for the NBA's Los Angeles Clippers last season.



Troy, a 6-foot-5 swingman from Stevens High in Rapid City, S.D., announced he would attend Nebraska after the letter of intent signing period had passed.

Troy averaged 19.5 points and 11 rebounds for the South Dakota Class AA state runner-up as a senior. "I'm very, very proud of him, and I'm excited to see him coming to Nebraska," Eric said.

"I hope everybody gives him a chance and doesn't try to compare him as a freshman to me as a junior and senior." Eric Piatkowski left Nebraska as the second-leading scorer in school history, behind only Dave Hoppen.

They will be the first brothers to play for the Cornhuskers since Tom and Terry Novak. Tom played from 1972 to 1974, Terry from 1975 to 1978.

Troy, a left-hander, comes by his ability naturally. Father Walt played three seasons in the American Basketball Association. In addition to Eric, older brothers David and Sean also have played collegiately, David at Hastings, Neb., College, Sean at a junior college in Bakersfield, Calif.

Around the horn . . .

Eric Piatkowski is scheduled to return to the Devaney Sports Center on Oct. 27. The Clippers will play Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls in an exhibition game. Cornhusker season ticket holders were given first chance at purchasing tickets for the contest. The tickets quickly sold out.



Transfers Bolster Second-Year Soccer Squad

The Husker women's soccer team, entering its second full season of play, added two transfers to its roster over the summer. Kari Uppinghouse and Lynee Officer will both be sophomores for the Huskers this season.

Uppinghouse, a transfer from George Mason, played at Metropolitan State College last fall. The former high school All-American, has participated on the Far West Regional Team and was selected the MVP of the tourney. She was also a Colonial Athletic Conference first team member as a freshman at GM in 1993-94, where she played against North Carolina in the 1993 NCAA Final.

Head coach John Walker (above) said that the 5-foot-11 Uppinghouse will play a major role this season.

"Kari is one of the top players in the country," he said. "She is the type of player that we need to recruit here in order to bring our program to the next level."

"She will be an impact player because she is someone who is a proven product on the national level."

Officer, originally a Nebraska native, transfers from Tulsa, Okla., where she started as a freshman during the 1994-95 campaign. A graduate of Millard North, she was a first-team all-state selection and captain for the 1994 state champion squad. ■

Piatkowski started at guard near the end of his rookie season, following an injury to Malik Sealy. According to a late-season story in the *Los Angeles Daily News*, Piatkowski could be a backcourt regular for the Clippers when they come to Lincoln for the Bulls' exhibition game.

Piatkowski was used mostly as a backup to fellow rookie Lamond Murray at small forward last season. The Clippers selected Murray with the No. 7 pick in the first round of the draft, then traded with the Indiana Pacers for Piatkowski, the 15th pick.

Scott Howard, an assistant for five years at Miami, has been hired by Nebraska Coach Danny Nee. Howard, the Hurricanes' recruiting coordinator, replaces **Gary Borgen**, who now serves as an assistant compliance coordinator. Borgen spent nine years as a Nee assistant. He was hired to replace Fran Fraschilla, who came with Nee from Ohio but quickly changed his mind and left.

Borgen will assist **Al Papik**, Nebraska's senior associate athletic director, in ensuring compliance with NCAA rules by Cornhusker sports.

Jeff Smith, the Cornhuskers' restricted-earnings coach and a seven-year veteran of Nee's staff, also has left the program. Smith accepted an assistant's position at Eastern Washington. His duties were assumed by **Bill Johnson**, a former Nebraska player who has been a graduate administrative assistant. Another former Cornhusker, **Jamar Johnson**, has returned as an administrative assistant. ■

Longtime hoops assistant, Gary Borgen, stepped down and will serve as an assistant compliance coordinator at the university.



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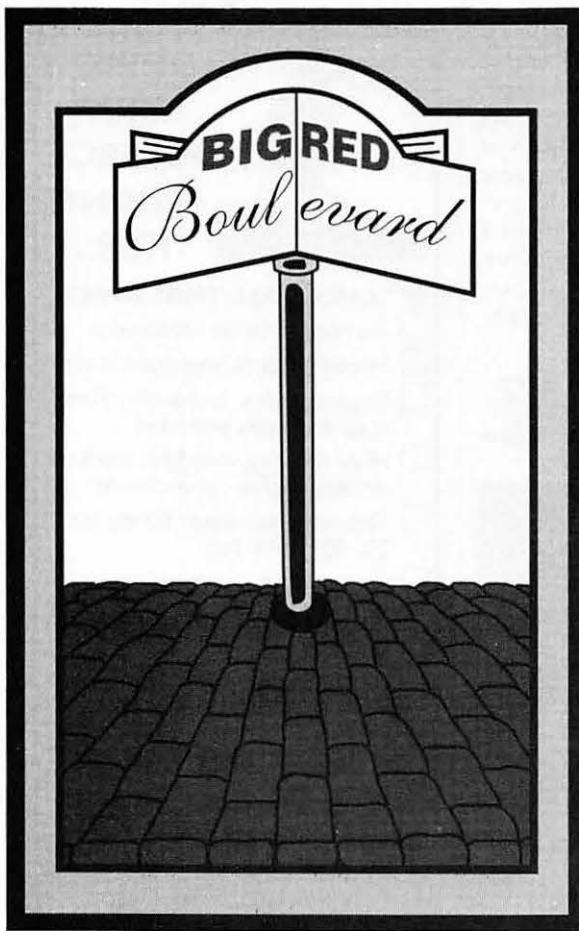


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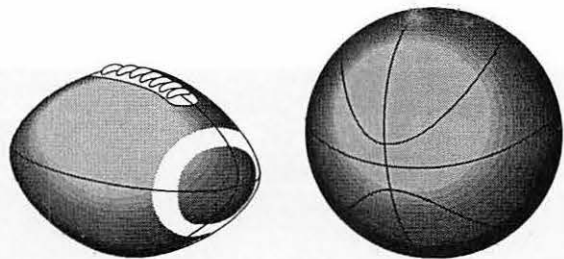


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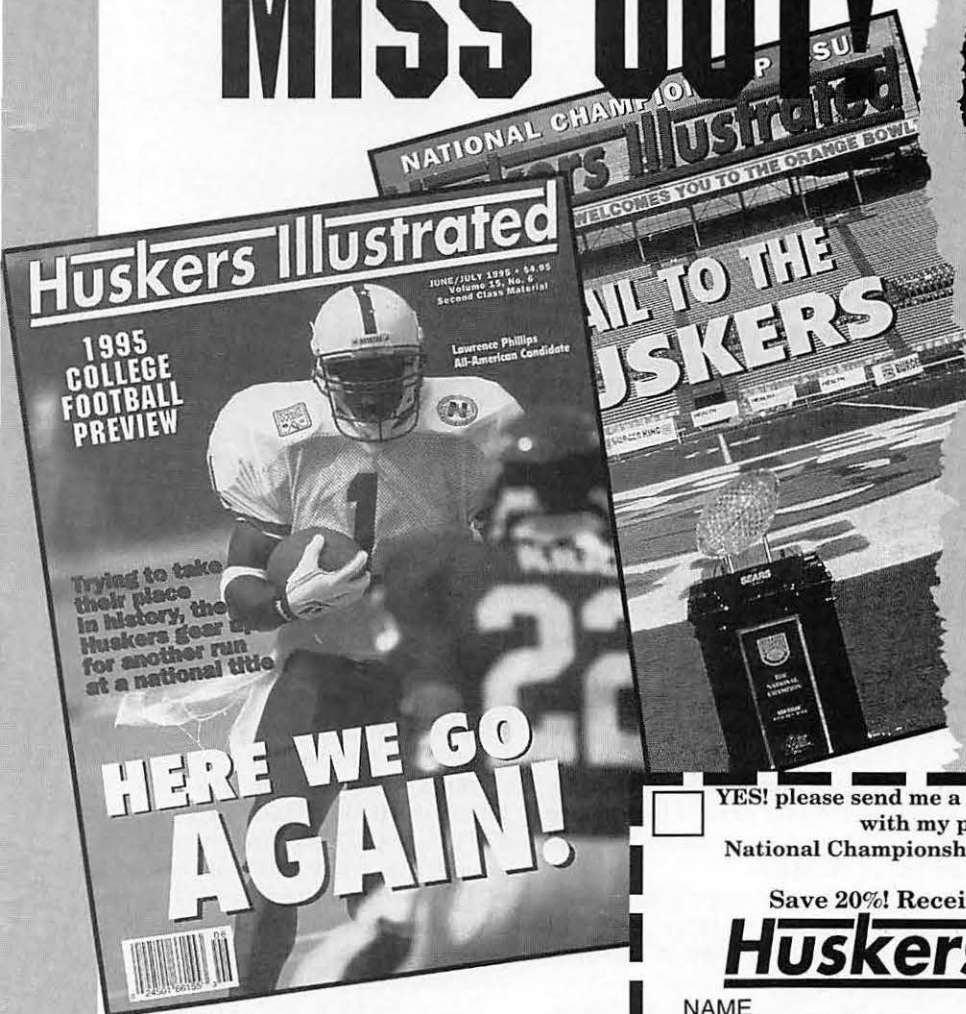
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High School Huskers

Cornhuskers use in-state high school standouts to provide a base for recruiting classes

By JAMES HALE

It's early, but already Nebraska's 1995 national championship seems to be paying big dividends toward the 1996 recruiting class. No, the Huskers don't have any early commitments, but what some of the top players across the country say makes it evident that Nebraska is the power team.

"Nebraska seems to be the school this year that most major recruits at least want to look at," said *BlueChip Magazine* managing editor Rick Kimbro. "Nebraska has always been a popular school on a national basis and they need to be because there just aren't that many players in Nebraska. However, this year Nebraska is really off to a great start and we really haven't gotten into the heart of recruiting yet. Out of the top 100 players nationally, over 60 have placed Nebraska on their initial list. That's fantastic considering they haven't heard from a Nebraska coach yet."

In-state, the Huskers normally sign eight to 10 athletes to national letters of intent. This year should be no exception, as the state of Nebraska doesn't have a large number of prospects.

Parnell Walton (5-foot-9, 192, 4.4) of Omaha Central is the cream of the crop. Walton will switch to running back after starting for two straight seasons at cornerback.

Walton figures to be another great one, despite his lack of experience at the position. Walton has been a great cover corner the past two years and could very well play that position on the college ranks.

"This is really the first year that Parnell will get a shot at running back, but with his talent he should still lead the state in rushing," said Central head coach Joe McMenimen. "He's got quick feet, slashes through the hole, has great excelleration and is just tough to bring down."

The Huskers have already expressed interest in Walton as a defensive back and will take him any way they can get him.

TOP NEBRASKANS

As football season begins, so does recruiting season. The following is a list of top Nebraska prep players and where they might be heading.

QUARTERBACKS

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Justin Coleman | 6-5 | 195 | 4.9 |KSU, OU, ISU, Stan. |
| Aaron Hendrickson | 6-3 | 180 | 4.7 |KSU, Wyo., NU. |

RUNNING BACK

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Parnell Walton | 5-9 | 192 | 4.4 |ND, Iowa, ISU, NU |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|

WIDE RECEIVERS

| | | | | |
|--------------|------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|
| Brock Beran | 5-11 | 165 | 4.5 |KSU, KU, S. Dakota St. |
| J.R. Edwards | 6-2 | 190 | 4.5 |NU, MU, Wyo., KU |

OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| Adam Hotz | 6-3 | 270 | 5.2 |NU, Iowa, ISU |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|

LINEBACKERS

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Noland Urban | 6-2 | 255 | 4.7 |UCLA, CU, OU, K-St. |
| Troy Van Horn | 6-6 | 255 | 5.3 |KSU, ISU, NU, MU |

DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|--------------------------------|
| John Gibson | 6-1 | 175 | 4.5 |NU, Pitt, ND, Bost. Coll. |
| Tyrone Hall | 5-11 | 166 | 4.5 | ..Ariz., Ariz. St., UCLA, MU |
| Rory Ryan | 5-10 | 180 | 4.5 |NU, N'western, Minn. |

Two players from Papillion-La Vista are drawing national looks. Adam Hotz (6-3, 270, 5.2) is an offensive guard who seems tailor-made for the Husker line. John Gibson (6-1, 175, 4.55) is a great all-purpose player who rivals Walton for best athlete in the state.

Hotz is a prototype guard who started his sophomore year at Merritt Island, Fla., before transferring to Papillion last season. Nebraska, Iowa, Iowa State, Northwestern, Florida and Pittsburgh are the leading recruiting contenders for Hotz.

Gibson is a free safety/wide receiver whom the Huskers have liked enough to have penciled Gibson in on next year's roster. A three-year starter, Gibson will move to strong safety this season to help support the run defense.

Gibson is leaning toward accepting a Nebraska offer and staying home. However, he is the nephew of former Lombardi Award winner

Mark May, who attended Pittsburgh and that has the Panthers in the hunt. Notre Dame and Boston College are also calling.

It's a solid year for skill position talent in Husker land. Tyrone Hall (5-11, 166, 4.57) is a three-year starter at both free safety and wide receiver. Hall is better suited to play in the secondary and says that he wants to look out of state at Arizona State, Arizona, UCLA and Missouri.

J.R. Edwards (6-2, 190, 4.51) of Lincoln Southeast is a great athlete who stars in football, basketball and baseball. After moving in from basketball-rich Indiana, Edwards was named Nebraska Super State in hoops after averaging 17.5 points per game. Edwards is still trying to decide between football and basketball. On the gridiron, Edwards is considering Nebraska, Missouri, Wyoming, Kansas, UCLA and Michigan.

Rory Ryan (5-10, 180, 4.5) of Lincoln Pius X and Brock Beran (5-

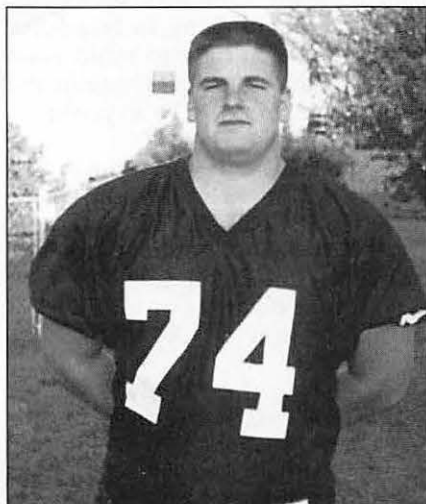
11, 165, 4.5) of Omaha Millard South are also great athletes who could line up on either side of the ball. Ryan is a free safety/tailback who rushed for 1,134 yards and 13 touchdowns last season. Ryan is an excellent student with a 28 ACT and is looking at Nebraska, Northwestern, Minnesota, Tulane, OU and Oklahoma State. Beran is a wide receiver prospect who averaged 17.9 yards per catch last season. Kansas State, Kansas and South Dakota State are Beran's leading contenders.

Two quarterbacks have shown enough to draw early attention. Justin Coleman (6-5, 195, 4.9) of McCook is a pure drop-back passer who has thrown his sidearm stuff for 1,612 yards and 22 scoring strikes last season. Also a 20-point scorer in hoops, Coleman likes the Kansas State offense, but also has an interest in Oklahoma, Iowa State, Stanford and Wyoming.

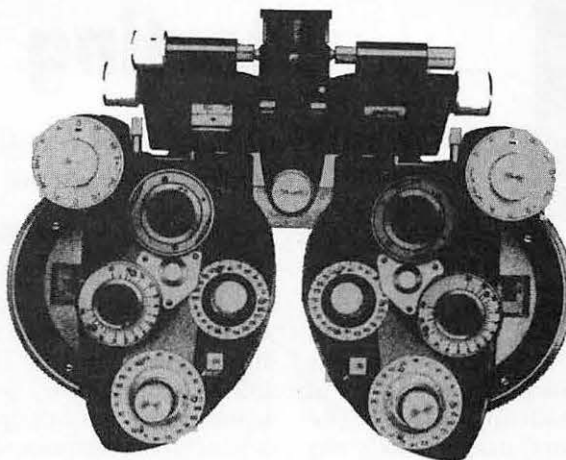
Aaron Hendrickson (6-3, 180, 4.8) of Cozad brings incredible field awareness to the game and had an impressive summer at the Nebraska and Kansas State summer camps. Kansas State is the leader here as well, with Wyoming, Nebraska and Fort Hayes State still taking a look.

Noland Urban (6-2, 225, 4.7) of Osceola is the top linebacker prospect in the state. Urban made 139 tackles last season with six sacks. Nebraska is the early leader here with UCLA, Colorado, OU, Kansas State and Wyoming also in the hunt.

Those are the early prime-timers in the state of Nebraska. The Huskers will look to sign their traditional eight to 10 and then mix in one of the top national classes in the country. ■



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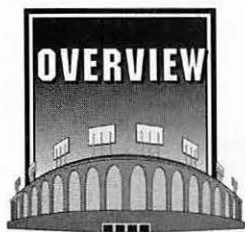
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Starting In Stillwater

Nebraska breaks from tradition opening the 1995 season with a conference game against Oklahoma State

By MIKE BABCOCK

On Sept. 25, 1948, Nebraska opened its football season with a 19-15 victory against Iowa State at Memorial Stadium. The Cornhuskers' coach was George "Potsy" Clark.

Nebraska and Iowa State were members of the Big Seven

Conference, which had just become the Big Seven with the addition of Colorado and wouldn't become the Big Eight until 1960, when Oklahoma State joined. The Cornhuskers haven't opened against a conference opponent since then. Until this season, they haven't, anyway.

On the night of Aug. 31, at

Stillwater, Okla., Nebraska will begin defense of its national title against Oklahoma State. The game will be televised on the ESPN cable network, which helps to explain the Cornhuskers' willingness to break from tradition.

Nebraska will gain national television exposure, according to Athletic Director Bill Byrne. Plus, the Cornhuskers will earn \$145,000 or so as their share of television revenue. In this time of gender equity, and the associated expenses, every fiscally responsible athletic program must be flexible enough to change.

As a result, when Nebraska was approached by ESPN about revising its schedule, the Cornhuskers were only too happy to accommodate the network. If something could be worked out, they would be willing to go along.

What followed was reasonably complicated. Apparently, Nebraska first contacted Missouri about switching the teams' game in Lincoln on Oct. 14. The Tigers declined, preferring to wait to take their chances against the Big Eight's preseason favorite.

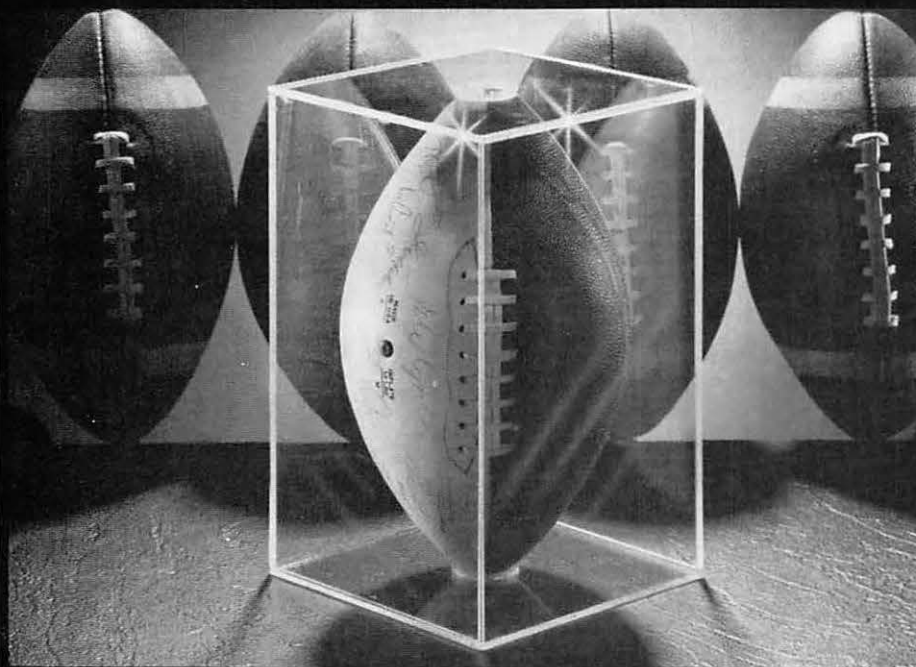
Oklahoma State was an alternate choice. Unlike Missouri, the Cowboys were interested. "It's a tough way to start your career," Oklahoma State coach Bob Simmons said at the Big Eight Football Kickoff in Kansas City, Mo., in late July. "But when you look to build your program over the years, one of the things you look for is exposure." Any exposure.

Simmons is in his first season as a head coach, after seven seasons as an assistant at Colorado. His eagerness to play probably was understandable, even though the Cowboys very well might do without the kind of exposure they're likely to get at Lewis Field.

Adjusting the schedule wasn't easy. Oklahoma State was set to play Wyoming on Sept. 2. Wyoming had to work out a schedule switch with Brigham Young, which had to work out a switch with Colorado State, and so on.

Reportedly, Wyoming got two

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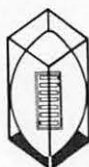
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appearances on ESPN2 out of the deal. In any case, after arrangements were made, Byrne expressed his gratitude for the cooperation of those involved.

That included the NCAA, which allowed Nebraska and Oklahoma State to play a game before Sept. 1, something previously limited to the Kickoff Classic, in which Nebraska has played three times, and the Pigskin Classic.

Beginning the season in August, even on the last day of the month, wasn't to be taken lightly.

Had it been only for the exposure and the money, Nebraska might have skipped the hassle and opened when it was supposed to, against Michigan State at East Lansing, Mich. That game also will be televised, by ABC, on Sept. 9. And there's the rub.

By moving the Oklahoma State game to Aug. 31, the Cornhuskers won't go to East Lansing cold. The potential for upset by Michigan State is probably greater than by Oklahoma State, if only because of the Cowboys' Big Eight affiliation. Nebraska is more familiar with Oklahoma State, even if it does have a new head coach.

All things being approximately equal, there is more risk in playing a Big Ten team on the road, even if that team is coming off a 5-6 season and isn't expected to escape the second division of the conference. At least one preseason publication predicts a 10th-place Spartan finish.

Like Oklahoma State, however, Michigan State has a new head coach in Nick Saban, most recently the defensive coordinator for the NFL's Cleveland Browns. The Spartans' new system, combined with the emotion of a crowd expected to number 73,000, is cause for considerable Cornhusker concern.

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne regularly contends that a team's most significant improvement occurs between the first and second games.

According to conventional thinking, non-conference games are used to prepare teams for the conference season, that winning the conference should be a team's goal. Nebraska certainly is intent on winning a fifth consecutive Big Eight title with only Colorado and Oklahoma in the way.

But the Cornhuskers have a national focus, as well. Their goal is to repeat as national champions. In order to facilitate that, they are willing to make sacrifices. ■



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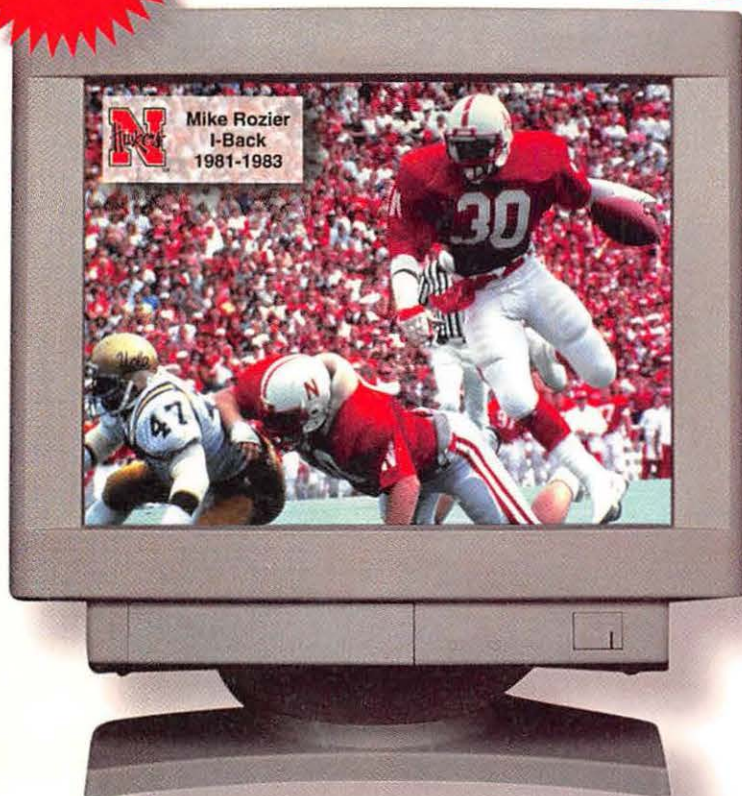
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